2013 Highlights

Two international LANDac events were organized in 2013. We started the year with an international conference on Gender and land in Utrecht. In November, the first of a series of three LANDforums took place: an annual think tank organized by LANDac (also taking place in 2014 and 2015) of researchers, policy makers, practitioners and private sector representatives who together search for new ways of optimizing the link between land investments, food security and inclusive and sustainable development. The year 2013 also signalled the completion of the second successful LANDac PhD with the dissertation of George Schoneveld titled ‘The governance of large-scale farmland investments in Sub-Saharan Africa - a comparative analysis of challenges for sustainability’. LANDac was strongly represented at the 2013 World Bank Land & Poverty Conference in Washington D.C. where we, among other things, organized a ‘booth’ for Dutch organizations working on land governance to display their work and activities. Parallel to this initiative, we assisted in the publication of a booklet in which Dutch organizations working on land governance issues where presented: ‘Dutch Land Governance Expertise’. LANDac has also been involved in a number of policy-related initiatives, following the increase in attention for land issues by political stakeholders in the Netherlands. A complete and detailed overview of our 2013 activities is given in the current LANDac Annual Report 2013.
Contents

Highlights ................................................................................................................................................. 1
Contents .................................................................................................................................................. 2
2. LANDac progress ................................................................................................................................. 2
  2.1 PhD research .................................................................................................................................. 5
    2.1.1 LANDac PhD research ............................................................................................................ 5
    2.1.2 Related PhD research of LANDac partners ........................................................................... 7
    2.1.3 PhD research dissemination ................................................................................................. 10
  2.2 Short-term research projects ........................................................................................................... 11
    2.2.1 Updates on ongoing short-term research projects ................................................................. 11
    2.2.2 List of completed short-term research projects ................................................................... 13
    2.2.3 Short-term research dissemination ..................................................................................... 14
  2.3 Policy input and policy contributions .............................................................................................. 15
  2.4 Knowledge sharing and dialogue .................................................................................................... 16
    2.4.1 LANDac events .................................................................................................................... 16
    2.4.2 LANDac representation ....................................................................................................... 16
    2.4.3 Publications ........................................................................................................................... 17
  2.5 Advisory services and help desk function ....................................................................................... 18
    2.5.1 Media ....................................................................................................................................... 19
  2.6 Learning and training events ............................................................................................................ 19
    2.6.1 LANDac Summer School ...................................................................................................... 19
    2.6.2 MSc research projects ......................................................................................................... 20
    2.6.3 Other learning and training activities .................................................................................... 22
  2.7 Platform function of LANDac .......................................................................................................... 22
    2.7.1 Website .................................................................................................................................... 22
    2.7.1 Mailing list .............................................................................................................................. 23
  2.8 Coordination and advisory board .................................................................................................... 23
3. LANDforum .......................................................................................................................................... 25
4. Planned activities against outcomes .................................................................................................... 26
Annex I LANDac Work plan 2014 .......................................................................................................... 28
Annex II Report and participant list LANDforum .................................................................................. 33
1. Evolving debates around land governance

Land issues continued to be of much interest for a wide variety of actors, including researchers, policy makers, practitioners and the private sector. Researchers are moving into new areas of research, expanding the range of case studies of both bad examples as well as good practices in land governance, investments in land etc. Government policy makers in the South and in the North continue to address land related policies and legislation. The private sector, including companies and investors, increasingly recognize the need to take into account land issues in investments in the South. And civil society organizations have started new campaigns, not only bringing forward cases of land grabbing and the negative consequences locally in Brazil, Sierra Leone, Indonesia and other countries, but also more clearly showing the links between cases of land grabbing and Western and Dutch companies, investors and consumers. For example, Oxfam Novib who showed in their Behind the Brands campaign that the production of sugar for Coca Cola and other multinational companies in the Brazilian Amazon involved violation of human rights and made links between cases of land grabbing and consumers and companies in the Netherlands very explicit. Mainstream media, also, have continued to cover stories about land grabbing, for example based on the campaigns of NGOs. Campaigns and media reports have led to questions asked in Dutch Parliament about involvement of companies and financial institutions in the Netherlands with cases of land grabbing.

Transparency remains at the centre of many discussions. As the main subject of the 2013 World Bank Land and Poverty Conference, but also as the focus of attention of the G8 countries. At the same time, the debate is broadening. How does more transparency lead to increased accountability and better land governance? And the debate is shifting from definitions and identification issues towards how to move beyond: Given the continued increase in investments, the accompanied efforts of governments to attract FDI, what kind of interventions are working, and what is not working? How to protect the rights of local communities and increase their negotiating capacity vis-à-vis companies?

---

1 Oxfam Novib, Milieudefensie, ActionAid
2 Oxfam ‘Behind the Brands’

---
How can benefits for local communities be maximized and what kinds of benefit sharing arrangements exist and what are experiences with those arrangements? How to make sure that all groups, including women, young and other disadvantaged groups, have an equal opportunity to benefit from investments in their region? What is the role of so-called fit-for-purpose land administration tools? These and other questions are addressed by a range of stakeholders, both institutions and governments; and at local, national and international level. And, at international level, what is the impact of negotiations such as the Voluntary Guidelines for responsible governance of tenure of land, fisheries and forests in the context of national food security (VGGTs)? What is the impact of different types of certification schemes and standards? And what roles do local, regional and national governments play? These discussions are closely tight to discussions about the role of land and water in Corporate Social Responsibility and responsible business approaches.

Land is very much on the Dutch political agenda. Following questions about the role of Dutch companies and Dutch financial institutions, two letters to Parliament were sent in May and June. And seven Dutch NGOs sent a letter to Minister Ploumen in which they propose 12 concrete tools for the role that the Netherlands could play in respecting land(user)rights and improving food security of vulnerable groups in developing countries. Following this, a round table was organized on 16 September. Later that same month, a committee meeting on land grabbing in Dutch Parliament took place, in which Minister Ploumen promised to report about quantitative developments and objectives of Dutch interventions to improved land governance and stop land grabbing. LANDac is at the forefront of these discussions. Within the Netherlands, we were asked to join the round table between the seven NGOs and Minister Ploumen. LANDac was also asked to help with the preparation of a new letter to Parliament in which specifically results and impacts of Dutch interventions on land governance will be described. The interest in results and impacts of projects and programmes that aim to improve land governance are also linked to the formulation of the Sustainable Development Goals for the Post-2015 agenda. Discussions at the international level are on-going as to how to incorporate land indicators into the Post-2015 framework.
1. LANDac progress

Our main activities are knowledge generation and dissemination, knowledge sharing and dialogue, advisory services and help desk, learning and training events, and our platform function. This part of the annual report provides a short overview of activities and progress made in these areas in the last year. Moreover, the specific links between research and policy/practice will be described to clearly show how LANDac activities contribute to policy development and improvement.

2.1 PhD research

An important LANDac activity is the generation of new knowledge. This is done mainly through our PhD programme and short-term research projects.

2.1.1 LANDac PhD research

Since LANDac’s start in 2010, we have employed five PhD students; in addition we have a number of PhD students whose work is dovetailed with LANDac activities. Directly funded LANDac PhD research is being or has been conducted by Lucia Goldfarb, Femke van Noorloos, Alda Salomão, George Schoneveld and Maru Shete.

Lucia Goldfarb: ‘Frontiers of expansion: land acquisition and control for GM soya cultivation in South America and beyond. Implications for equitable and sustainable development’

In 2013 Lucia has finished her fieldwork in Argentina with a third visit. She has published a book chapter ‘The Drivers Behind the Rapid Expansion of Genetically Modified Soya Production into the Chaco Region of Argentina’ in co-authorship with Annelies Zoomers in Biofuels - Economy, Environment and Sustainability, Prof. Zhen Fang (Ed.). With Annelies Zoomers, Lucia worked on a chapter entitled ‘The rapid expansion of genetically modified soy production into the Chaco region of Argentina’ for the book ‘The global land grab: beyond the hype’ (Kaag & Zoomers, forthcoming). She also submitted another article on displacement and enclosures in northern Argentina (which is still under review) to the Journal of Peasant Studies.


Femke successfully defended her dissertation in December 2012. In 2013, she worked on a book chapter based on her PhD dissertation: ‘Transnational land investment in Costa Rica: tracing residential tourism and its implications for development’. This will be a contribution for the book ‘The global land grab: beyond the hype’ (Kaag & Zoomers, forthcoming). In addition, Femke was invited by NGO Alba Sud – a Catalan NGO focusing on research and communication for development – to provide local students, professors and policy makers in Nicaragua and Costa Rica with more insight into this topic. In April and May 2013 she gave guest lectures at the Universidad Nacional...
Alda Salomão: ‘Challenges of participatory land governance in Mozambique: Assessing community spaces, voices, powers and benefits in decisions on large-scale land-based investments’

In 2013, Alda conducted fieldwork in the province of Cabo Delgado, Palma District, focusing on the Natural Gas Project submitted by the American company Anadarko, and in the Gaza province, Xai-Xai district, focusing on the Wambao Agriculture Development Project, a Chinese-Mozambican joint venture. Alda also prepared (with Annelies Zoomers), and presented, a paper at the World Bank Land & Poverty Conference with the title ‘Large-scale land acquisitions, land grabbing and ways forward in participatory and equitable land governance in Mozambique’. Alda visited the Netherlands in November and worked at Utrecht University to further define the scope of her PhD project in close collaboration with UU-IDS staff and continued drafting her dissertation.

George Schoneveld: ‘The governance of large-scale farmland investments in Sub-Saharan Africa. A comparative analysis of challenges for sustainability’

Successfully defended in October 2013, George finished his PhD in less than two years time due to fieldwork previously carried out in Ethiopia, Ghana, Zambia, Cameroon and Nigeria, when based at the international research institute CIFOR. This previous research led to the publication of several articles before starting his PhD in 2012 and formed the basis for the current completed PhD. In August 2013, an article by George together with Laura German titled ‘Contemporary processes of large-scale land acquisition in sub-Saharan Africa: legal deficiency or elite capture of the rule of law’ was published

---


5 http://www.albasud.org/publ/docs/58.pdf (general overview of the thesis) http://www.albasud.org/publ/docs/60.pdf (focus on residential tourism in the ‘land grab’ debate)
in *World Development*. George defended his dissertation publicly in Utrecht on 2 October 2013 and prior to that presented the main findings for LANDac partners during a LANDac executive committee meeting on 30 September. George started writing an English policy letter with recommendations for policy makers and practitioners that will be published in 2014 together with the policy letter of Femke van Noorloos.

**Maru Shete:** ‘The impact of large-scale land acquisition on equitable and sustainable development in Ethiopia’

Maru conducted fieldwork in Gambella where two large-scale farms were considered as cases: Karuturi (foreign investor) and Bazen (domestic investor). Data was collected from companies, 675 households and from soils. The data is currently being processed. At the World Bank Land & Poverty Conference in Washington DC, Maru presented a paper entitled ‘Impact of large-scale agricultural investment on income and food security in Oromiya Region, Ethiopia’. He also submitted a revised version of an article to the *Journal of Rural Studies* with the title: ‘Stakeholders’ Perspectives on Large-Scale Agricultural Investment in Ethiopia: An Analysis of the Disconnects between Expectation and Reality’ of which he is currently awaiting the decision. In addition, he submitted a manuscript to the journal *Land Use Policy* with the title: ‘Do large-scale farms contribute to Ethiopia’s breadbasket? A comparative empirical evidence from Oromiya region.’ which is currently under review. Another manuscript entitled ‘Land-use Change Caused by Large-scale Farms and Its Effects on the Environment: A Socio-physical Analysis from Two Ecological Regions in Ethiopia’ is ready for submission. Finally, Maru contributed to a book titled *Africa’s Land Rush: Implications for Rural Livelihoods and Agrarian Change* (edited by Ruth Hall, Ian Scoones and Dzodzi Tskikata) which is currently being processed for publication. Together with LANDac PhD George Schoneveld, Maru worked on a chapter titled ‘Modernizing the periphery: citizenship and Ethiopia’s new agricultural investment policies’ for the book *The global land grab: beyond the hype* (Kaag & Zoomers, forthcoming).

LANDac PhDs collaborate with the different LANDac partners. International Development Studies (UU), Sociology of Development and Change (WUR) and ASC (Leiden University) are involved in land-related research projects at their own institutions. International Development Studies (IDS) group (Utrecht University)

### 2.1.2 Related PhD research of LANDac partners

The academic partners of LANDac – International Development Studies (UU), African Studies Centre (ASC) and Sociology of Development and Change (WUR) – are also separately involved in land-related research projects at their own institutions.
• Caroline Archambault is conducting research on gender aspects of land titling in Kenya under a NWO-WOTRO VENI research grant. Caroline moved to Washington DC in 2013 where she also links activities of the World Bank to LANDac work.

• Pham Huu Ty (HUAF University of Agriculture and Forestry, Vietnam) is conducting PhD research into land acquisition, hydro-dam construction and displacement in Vietnam. Nguyen Quang Phuc (Hue College of Economics, Vietnam) studies the impacts of land acquisition and compensation in relation to urban expansion for his PhD research.

• In the context of the Agriculture Beyond Food (ABF) research programme, two PhDs are working on migration flows and forest transformation caused by oil palm expansion in Sumatra and East-Kalimantan.

• Also in Indonesia, Erlis Saputra researches land subsidence in collaboration with the Gadja Mada University.

• Patricio Mena Váscones (IDS-UU and WUR) studies water and land grabs of flower business in Ecuador.

• In collaboration with the Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) through former LANDac PhD George Schoneveld, and the Netherlands Copernicus Institute (UU), Joanneum Research (Austria) and the Stockholm Environment Institute, IDS-UU cooperates in the LIFFE Options programme: ‘Large-scale investments in food, fibre and energy: Sustainable options that work for forests and the poor’. The programme has started three PhD projects to date: Brazil (Frederico Brandão), Mozambique (Filipe Di Matteo) and Indonesia (Idzert Jelsma).

• In the new Aspasia programme, two independent but comparable case studies examine the impact of Chinese engagements in Indonesia (tin sector on Bangka Island – Rika Theo) and Zambia (movement of Chinese skilled personnel to the medical and agricultural sectors – Peter Schumacher). Both PhDs include specific attention to the impact on land.

• The Rurban Africa programme of IDS-UU (EU-FP7) explores connections between urbanisation, mobility and rural transformation processes. In Rwanda, PhD Ine Cottyn examines how agricultural transformation and socioeconomic dynamics in peri-urban areas – which are marked by different forms of commodification and land tenure systems – interact with rural-urban resource flows and its impact on livelihood resources.
African Studies Centre (Leiden University)

- For many years, the African Studies Centre has been involved in several research projects on land issues in Africa, including land governance. Research among Masai pastoralists, which was started in the mid-1980s, highlights the effects of individualization of group land held under statutory law on resource use, equity and gender.

- Since 2012, the ASC is involved in a research in the Tana Delta, and three other basins in Kenya as part of a wider programme on dwindling water and land grab (funded by the NWO-WOTRO programme CoCoon). Provisional results act as input for the Netherlands Environmental Impact Assessment team, of which ASC (through Marcel Rutten) is a member that advises the Kenyan Government on best guidelines to draft a land-use plan for the delta.

- ASC is also part of a NWO integrated research programme ‘Grounding Land Governance’ (Han van Dijk ASC/WUR) in which they collaborate with Sociology of Development and Change (WUR), KIT and the CICAM at Nijmegen University, looking at land conflicts, local governance and decentralization in post-conflict Uganda, Burundi and Southern Sudan.

- PhD research on land access in Rwanda is carried out by Margot Leegwater (promotor: Jan Abbink, ASC).

- Angela Kronenburg García conducts PhD research on ‘Land struggles, the Naimina Enkiyio forest conflicts and leadership among the Loita Maasai of Kenya’ (promotor: Han van Dijk, ASC/WUR).


Sociology of Development and Change (SDC) group (Wageningen University)

- The Sociology of Development and Change (SDC) Group at Wageningen University is, together with the African Studies Centre (ASC), the CICAM at Nijmegen University and KIT involved in the ‘Grounding Land Governance’ research programme. The project focuses on the nexus between decentralization and land governance in post-conflict situations where large numbers of IDPs have to find their place and new state authorities need to develop mechanisms for land governance. PhD and post-doc research is done in South Sudan, Burundi and Uganda.

- Together with the Special Chair Humanitarian Aid and Reconstruction at WUR, SDC is engaged in the research programme ‘Mining governance, conflict transformation and sustainable development in DRC’ which focuses on the governance implications and socio-economic impact of national and international initiatives aimed at formalizing the artisanal and small-scale mining sector, and at breaking the assumed link between mining and violent conflict in the eastern and southeastern parts of the Democratic Republic of Congo. The programme involves PhD and post-doc research.

- SDC participates in the IS Academy Human Security in Fragile States. Chaired by the Special Chair Humanitarian Aid and Reconstruction at WUR. This IS Academy seeks to better
understand the processes of socio-economic recovery and the roles of formal and informal institutions in conditions of state fragility. Research and related activities within this IS Academy link to land governance, for example the PhD research into local negotiations to the threat of land scarcity in expanding urban areas of Bukavu in DRC and the recent short-term research on Land governance as an avenue for state-building in DRC (conducted in collaboration with CICAM at Nijmegen University).

- Staff and student research at SDC touches on a variety of topics related to palm oil, land and water rights affected by urban sprawl, and extractive industry in Latin America.

In addition to these projects in which LANDac partners are directly involved, our network also holds good linkages with two large projects at the VU University in Amsterdam: ‘Development as a Trojan Horse? Foreign Large-scale Land Acquisitions in Ethiopia, Madagascar and Uganda’ (Sandra Evers); and at the University of Amsterdam: ‘Gulf-State Concessions in Indonesia and the Philippines: Contested Control of Agricultural Land and Foodcrops’ (Rosanne Rutten and Gerben Nooteboom). Besides these specific research programmes, we collaborate with other universities within the Netherlands that work on land governance, including Groningen University, ITC Twente University, and the International Institute of Social Studies (Erasmus University).

2.1.3 PhD research dissemination

With the completion of two of our LANDac PhDs to date, research dissemination activities of main findings and outcomes of PhD research is gaining in importance. Both finalized PhD candidates, Femke van Noorloos and George Schoneveld, have commenced to further disseminate their research findings as well as to draft policy recommendations based on the outcomes.

- Femke van Noorloos was invited by Alba Sud – a Catalan NGO focusing on research and communication for development – to provide local students, practitioners and policy makers in Nicaragua and Costa Rica with more insight into the topic of residential tourism and pressures on land. In April and May 2013 Femke gave guest lectures for a wide public at the Universidad Nacional (UNA) in Liberia, Costa Rica, and at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Nicaragua (UNAN) in Managua, Nicaragua⁶. In addition, two Spanish-language

---

papers on her PhD research were published and widely disseminated by Alba Sud7.

- LANDac PhD George Schoneveld has been invited by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs to present the main findings and policy recommendations of his research. The presentation will take place in the first months of 2014.
- For further research dissemination in the Netherlands and other countries, Femke and George have started to formulate English-language policy notes with recommendations for policy makers and practitioners. Both policy notes will be finalized and distributed early next year.

2.2 Short-term research projects

2.2.1 Updates about ongoing short-term research projects

Farmer organizations

‘Enhancing transparency and participation in decision & policy making on land governance by strong farmers’ representation - The case of Uganda and the Uganda National Farmers’ Federation (UNFFE)’

LANDac: Jur Schuurman and Niek Thijssen, Agriterra/ partner organization: UNFFE

The research examines the extent to which organized local rural people (‘local’ meaning ‘in-country’) can take part in policy-making on land allocation and the land re/allocation processes itself. It will take stock of the existing procedural issues of consultation, negotiation and consent, the mechanisms by which farmers and their organizations can be included in the decision making processes and understand their land rights. Last but not least, the research will investigate the vertical and horizontal linkages that formal and informal membership organizations make use of and how this results in organizations’ agency for actually influencing decision-making. It started from the hypothesis that better horizontal and vertical linkages make for stronger farmers’ organization with more negotiation capacity, and that this directly or indirectly contributes to better land policies in a country. The case selected to assess this conjecture was Uganda.

The study concludes that land administration and governance in Uganda is weak. Transparency and participation are absent from land governance agencies. Strategies for improving accountability and transparency are equally missing. Weak land governance in both formal and informal settings entrench failures in land administration. Inconsistencies in the land law and how the law is administered partly explain the status quo. One of the factors contributing to these failures is the absence of a strong voice on behalf of those directly affected by lack of transparent land governance: the farmers. In other words, the weakness of the Uganda National Farmers Federation (UNFFE) in terms of its linkages. The study shows that UNFFE lacks a footprint in the land governance arena. Human and financial constraints and weak horizontal and vertical linkages account for this. On the other hand, UNFFE is recognized as legitimate representative of farmers in Uganda by the

7 http://www.albasud.org/publ/docs/58.pdf (general overview of the thesis)
http://www.albasud.org/publ/docs/60.pdf (focus on residential tourism in the ‘land grab’ debate)
government and other development partners. This presents a strategic opportunity to UNFFE to advocate for the interests of farmers in land. The report of this study is being finalized and the primary material is being requested from the researchers to see if we can continue working with it, for example via the organization of a write shop. Agriterra is further trying to see how they can take the outcomes of this research further in their plan of work. One way in which it has been applied is through the use in the Farmer’s Consultation Advocacy Tool of Agriterra that is currently being rolled out in Uganda and other countries.

**Responsible business**

‘Towards more profitable and responsible investments in land in emerging economies - Four critical issues in large-scale land acquisition by private companies’

**LANDac: Guus van Westen, IDS-UU; John Belt, KIT; Gemma Betsema, LANDac/ Partner organization: AidEnvironment**

The research identified four critical issues emerging from relevant international regulations (such as the OECD guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, the IFC performance standards) related to large-scale agricultural investments in developing countries. These issues are: community engagement, securing legal rights to land, corporate responsibilities in government-led land acquisition, and resolution of land-based conflicts. Departing from these four issues, several key aspects are introduced that are exemplary in making investments in land more profitable and more responsible and thereby more sustainable. The report provides an initial and modest, though by no means exhaustive, overview of some good practices that were found that contribute to more sustainable investments in land in developing countries. The aim is to motivate private investors and companies to set up their projects in a more responsible way and the described practices provide some guidance to those interested or already active in large-scale land investments in Africa, Asia or Latin America.

The draft report is almost finished and the researchers from IDS-UU will have a final look at this in order to include some more documented cases of good practices. Material will be sought in papers for the World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty (both 2013 and 2014), the LANDforum, and the MVO Nederland commissioned study of Dutch entrepreneurs in five African countries that was carried out by IDS-UU in 2013.
Local government

‘Governing commercial pressure on land: what is the role of local government?’

LANDac: Gemma van der Haar, WUR; Gerard Baltissen, KIT/ Partners: different PhD researchers in the focus countries

The interest of this research is to get a better understanding of the role that states at local level (municipalities, districts, ‘communes’) play in regulating processes of land acquisition and land grabbing and the implications of that role. We currently know little about the possibilities state agents at local level see to shape the process of land acquisition and how they balance development needs and protection needs: How do they understand and use their room to manoeuvre? How do they use new governance instruments and capacities in fulfilling their role? How do they balance commercial and social interests? And how do they balance public responsibility and potential private gain? To investigate these questions, a series of short studies will be carried out that connect with ongoing research in order to enhance feasibility and for efficient use of resources. The researchers will be brought together in a write-shop where the papers they have written will be discussed and lifted to a higher level. Countries to include are Burkina Faso, Burundi, Uganda, Mozambique, Ghana, Benin, DR Congo, Rwanda and Ethiopia. Researchers have been selected and an interview protocol will be worked out. Fieldwork will start in 2014, the write-shop is planned in June 2014.

Synthesis study

LANDac: Femke van Noorloos, IDS-UU; Gemma Betsema, LANDac

The synthesis study summarizes LANDac’s contributions, findings and lessons learned, and gives directions for future research as well as possible linkages to new initiatives. Particular attention will be paid to the short-term research projects conducted so far, but other activities such as PhD research and other LANDac output will be taken into account. The report is organized around a limited number of themes, including the role of civil society and farmers organizations; the role of private sector and responsible investment; and the role of local governments and the state. In addition, a thorough assessment of follow-up activities of LANDac research (dissemination, input for policy and practice) is included.

2.2.2 List of completed short-term research projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research projects</th>
<th>Dissemination/ follow-up</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2010</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Cambodia: Inventory of large-scale land acquisitions for commercial farming in forested areas of northeast Cambodia, and the impact on livelihoods of local communities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. East-Congo: Emerging regulations on land governance in mining areas in a post-conflict setting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Senegal: Analysis of the public debate over land rights: how are issues presented, what are the debates and what are the positions taken by stakeholders in these debates</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. West-Africa: Inventory of medium and large-scale land acquisitions in Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, and DR Congo; what are local responses of farmers’ organizations and local governments; what are the effects on local development?

5. Zimbabwe: Changes in land rights and land security following the Fast Track Land Reform programme: influence on livelihoods and land use

6. Update of the 2007 inventory on Dutch support for improving land governance in developing countries and analysis of lessons learned

7. Burkina Faso: How local governments anticipate on the new land legislation

8. Ethiopia: Analysis of (changing) government policy with respect to large scale land acquisitions; what is the impact for rural livelihoods

9. India: The changing (legal) position of tribal minorities in recent development around land markets in Andhra Pradesh

10. Madagascar: How are decentralized land governance structures dealing with large-scale investment in farming and mining; how can the position of women be improved following the implementation of the new land policy in selected municipalities?

11. Rwanda: Impact of new land policy and legislation (registration and certification of land) on livelihoods of rural men and women

12. Uganda: Inventory of the effects of large-scale land acquisitions in the Lake Albert area where oil drilling is starting; what are the effects on livelihoods and land security, what are experiences with revenues sharing?

**2011**

13. Former Soviet Union: Large-scale land acquisition in the former Soviet Union. A study of rural social movements and land conflicts


### 2.2.3 Short-term research dissemination

As part of the ongoing Synthesis study, a thorough assessment of follow-up activities of LANDac short-term research (dissemination, input for policy and practice) is currently being made. Responses of Southern researchers so far included the following activities that followed from the short-term research projects: published articles and book chapters (for academic publications, contributions to policy debate series, working papers); presentations and conferences (International and national level; including at the World Bank, Dutch and non-Dutch universities, Dutch embassies); media outputs in national and international newspapers and opinion magazines; input for development programmes and policy-oriented lectures; and the
development of new research programmes. A complete overview of all outputs and dissemination activities linked to the short-term research projects will become available in the first months of 2014, and will be shared via our website and included in the next annual report.

2.3 Policy input and policy contributions

LANDac partners have contributed to policy research and support:

- **Throughout 2013**: LANDac coordinator Gemma Betsema contributed to the fine-tuning of the Netherlands input for the Land Governance Programme Map ([http://landgov.donorplatform.org](http://landgov.donorplatform.org)) hosted by the Global Donor Platform for Rural Development. Together with Frits van der Wal, general comments and recommendations for the design and set-up of the database were provided. The database will be launched early 2014 and contains information about donor budgets and activities on land governance programmes worldwide. The programmes are linked to principles of the VGGTs, which aims to shed light on current efforts already being made by donors in implementing principles of the VGGTs.

- **September 2013**: Policy note by LANDac co-chair Guus van Westen, based on IDS-UU and LANDac research into Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and responsible land-based investments.

- **August 2013**: LANDac coordinator Gemma Betsema reviewed the FAO ‘Agricultural investment and access to land. A technical guide to support the achievement of responsible governance of tenure in the context of agricultural investments’ and provided inputs for further improvements.

**8-13 April 2013**: At the annual World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty in Washington DC, USA, different LANDac partners provided contributions. This included the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Frits van der Wal), Utrecht University (Annelies Zoomers and Guus van Westen), Sociology of Development and Change (Gemma van der Haar), KIT (Gerard Baltissen) and Gemma Betsema through presenting research on land, chairing sessions, and organizing a booth to display Netherlands expertise on land governance. In addition to this, together with the Netherlands Embassy in Washington DC and the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (formerly Agentschap NL), LANDac assisted in the preparation of a publication ‘Dutch Land Governance Expertise’ (April 2013) that was widely
distributed among the approximately 800 conference participants and helped profiling Dutch organizations’ activities related to land governance at the conference.

2.4 Knowledge sharing and dialogue

Knowledge sharing and dialogue takes place through LANDac (co-)organized events such as lunch lectures or public meetings; LANDac representation at other events; and via publications.

2.4.1 LANDac events

LANDac (co-)organized a number of events, lectures, seminars and meetings in 2013:

- **14-15 January 2013**: Caroline Archambault and Annelies Zoomers, together with Femke van Noorloos and Gemma Betsema co-organized a 2-day conference on gender and land governance in Utrecht, the Netherlands. The meeting brought together scholars ad policy makers engaged in the gender dynamics of land governance processes; in addition to keynote presentations and plenary debate, discussions took place in working groups and panels (guest speakers from across academia and public policy). The conference also served as a launching point for the development of the Technical Guide on Gender equitable governance of land tenure (FAO). The papers of this conference will be published in 2014 (Routledge). 60 participants, University Hall Utrecht.

- **23 September 2013**: LANDac co-organized, together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (department of sustainable economic development and the department of environment, water, climate and energy), a lecture and lunch meeting titled ‘Community Land & Natural Resource Rights. Whose land is it anyway?’. The lecture, by Peter Veit (World Resources Institute) and Duncan Pruett (Oxfam Novib) followed up on an international conference in Interlaken, Switzerland (19 and 20 September), about scaling-up strategies to secure community land and resource rights. The meeting was well-attended by approximately 50 participants.

- **30 September 2013**: LANDac organized a lecture and discussion on the subject of climate change and land issues. Dr Sonja Vermeulen, Advisory Board member of LANDac and head of research at the CGIAR Research program on climate change, agriculture and food security, presented linkages between climate change and land governance. The lecture in Utrecht was attended by around 30 participants, including researchers, practitioners and policy makers.

- **2 October 2013**: LANDac PhD George Schoneveld publicly defended his thesis ‘The Governance of Large-Scale Farmland Investments in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Comparative Analysis of the Challenges for Sustainability’ at the Academiegebouw in Utrecht. Via the LANDac mailing list, interested parties were invited to attend this event.

2.4.2 LANDac representation

LANDac attendance of meetings/ seminars linked to land governance:
13 May 2013: Guus van Westen and Gemma Betsema attended the information meeting Food & Business Knowledge Agenda in The Hague. The Food and Business Knowledge Agenda is a new initiative of knowledge sharing and research funding for food and nutrition security, bringing together Northern and Southern partners from the private sector, top sectors, civil society, science, education and policy, to share, learn, apply, reflect and create new knowledge and applications.


12-14 November 2013: Gemma Betsema went to the partner meeting of the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) in The Hague. In addition, LANDac has been in contact with the secretariat of the GLTN in June/July about possibly joining the network as a partner. Following this engagement, partnership will be requested in 2014.

21 November 2013: LANDac attended a meeting at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs following the publication of a report titled ‘Commodity crimes. Illicit land grabs, illegal palm oil, and endangered orangutans’ by Friends of the Earth Netherlands. Guest speaker was Anton P. Widjaya from Walhi West Kalimantan. LANDac coordinator Gemma Betsema joined the discussion, together with Suseno Budidarsono and Carina van der Laan (both PhD researchers in the ‘Agriculture Beyond Food – Sliding from Greasy Land’ research programme, which is closely affiliated with LANDac.

23 November 2013: At the Netherlands Association of African Studies (NVAS) Africa Study Day, LANDac co-chair Guus van Westen presented the first copy of the book ‘Africa for sale? Positioning the state, land and society in foreign large-scale land acquisitions in Africa’ (Evers, Seagle and Krijtenburg, eds.) during the launch of the publication.

2.4.3 Publications

- Lucia Goldfarb and Annelies Zoomers, ‘The drivers behind the rapid expansion of genetically modified soya production into the Chaco region of Argentina’ in Biofuels – Economy, Environment and Sustainability (Fang, ed), 2013
- George Schoneveld published an article in World Development titled ‘Contemporary processes of large-scale land acquisition in Sub-Saharan Africa: Legal deficiency or elite capture of the rule of law’ with Laura German (August 2013).
- Annelies Zoomers, together with post-doc Caroline Archambault, received notice that papers from the LANDac Gender and Land Conference in January 2013 will be published in a book titled ‘Global Trends in Land Tenure Reform: Gender Impacts’. Annelies and Caroline will continue to work on this in 2014.

- Annelies Zoomers wrote a chapter titled ‘A Critical Review of the Policy Debate on Large-Scale Land Acquisitions: Fighting the Symptoms or Killing the Heart?’ in the edited volume ‘Africa for Sale? Positioning the State, Land and Society in Foreign Large-Scale Land Acquisitions in Africa’ (Sandra Evers, Caroline Seagle, Froukje Krijtenburg, eds). LANDac co-Chair Guus van Westen was asked to hand out the first copy.

- Annelies Zoomers reviewed the book ‘The business of social and environmental innovation: new frontiers in Africa’.

- Frits van der Wal and Gemma Betsema contributed to the editing of the booklet ‘Dutch Land Governance Expertise’ presented at the World Bank Land & Poverty Conference. All LANDac partners contributed to this booklet by sending short descriptions of the land-related activities.

2.5 Advisory services and help desk function

- Annelies Zoomers, was asked to join a Round Table with seven Dutch NGOs and Minister Ploumen on 16 September (following the NGOs letter with 12 concrete tools for the role the Netherlands in respecting land(user)rights and improving food security of vulnerable groups in developing countries) as a resource person, providing background information to support and complement the Round Table discussion where possible.

- Annelies Zoomers participated in a round table discussion with Minister for Development Cooperation Lilianne Ploumen about the ‘modernization of development cooperation’ on 18 February 2013.

- Gemma Betsema provided input about Dutch land governance related activities in Indonesia for a visit of the Minister to Indonesia.

- Gemma Betsema was interviewed by a BSc student from Groningen University, who wrote a thesis about land grabbing and provided more information about LANDac activities and the land grab debate in general.

- Gemma Betsema informed different partners within the Netherlands (including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Oxfam Novib) about opportunities for international students to do a land-related MSc programme at one of the Dutch universities.

- Femke van Noorloos and Gemma Betsema spoke with Mirjam Verheul of VSO about land governance in general and possible links of LANDac in Zambia – where Mirjam would be working in the land use planning department of the ministry.

- Gemma Betsema visited the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) in Nairobi to discuss possible collaboration in the future (February 2013).
- Annelies Zoomer and Gemma Betsema participated in a brainstorm organized by Leon Verstappen (Groningen University; IALTA), together with Jaap Zevenbergen, to discuss the possibility for setting up an international, multi-disciplinary journal on land.

2.5.1 Media contacts

Media contacts of LANDac partners and related research included:


- 4 July 2013: Annelies Zoomers (interview) for the radio programme ‘Met het oog op morgen’ following the G8 transparency initiative: ‘Landroof op de agenda van de G8’.


2.6 Learning and training events

2.6.1 LANDac Summer School

From 8 to 19 July 2013, LANDac organized the fourth edition of the Summer School Land Governance for Development. This year’s course brought together an interesting group of participants and lecturers to study current debates on land governance and land deals. The 2-week course was attended by 20 participants: Masters and PhD students and development practitioners from a variety of countries, including the US, Japan, Uzbekistan, Malaysia, Philippines, Ethiopia, Italy, Spain, France, Germany, and the Netherlands. The intensive programme included lectures, workshops and an excursion given by a variety of high-quality lecturers from academia and practice. The course included a number of lectures that provided a general overview of various important themes such as the global land rush, land governance and land administration, and land issues in post-conflict situations. This was combined with a variety of illustrative case studies on topics such as land deals in Mozambique, soy expansion in Argentina, urban and hydropower-related land pressures in Vietnam, oil palm expansion in Indonesia, stakeholder responses to land deals in Kenya, real estate and tourism in Central America, and post-conflict land governance in South Sudan. Furthermore, participants had the opportunity to look at the issues from different stakeholders’ different viewpoints: there were – among others - a session on the role of farmers organizations; a workshop from a human rights approach; and a private
sector-oriented session. In many of the presentations and insightful discussions, the roles of local and central governments and local communities were also discussed in depth. In an excursion to a Dutch organic farm, participants had the opportunity to learn from different experiences of Dutch livestock farming and land use, and their relevance for other countries and contexts. This was beautifully illustrated by a visit to various parts of the farm. Towards the end of the course, students elaborated cases based on their own interests, which they shared with the group through a presentation and a poster. This served to further broaden everyone’s knowledge, and it resulted in a number of very insightful discussions. As such, many new and interesting themes were dealt with, such as nature conservation and ‘green grabs’; the role of donors; land acquisition for state infrastructural projects; local communities’ responses to land deals and mobilization; land administration and economic development in Kosovo and in Greece; national and international policies to improve local livelihoods under land deals; land policies and rural-urban land use changes in Bolivia; and a narrative analysis on food crisis and land grabbing.

2.6.2 MSc research projects

The following MSc students at the three academic LANDac partners have taken up land governance related subjects for fieldwork and finalized their thesis in 2013:

International Development Studies (UU)
- T. Wortman, ‘Island for sale? An explorative research into foreign investment in the (residential) tourism industry of Mauritius’
- M.J. Heetderks, ‘Poverty in a transforming landscape: research in Bela-Bela Local Municipality, Limpopo Province, South Africa’
- B. van Stipdonk, ‘Land transfer in the Paraná Delta, Argentina’
- K. Hudlet-Vazquez, ‘Electrical fences make bad neighbors. The resurgence of grievances from historical large land acquisitions in local responses to changes in access to land The Dolly Estate, Meru District, Tanzania’
- Ilse Zeemeijer, ‘Who gets what, when and how? New corporate land acquisitions and the impact on local livelihoods in Uganda’
- Inga Cesnulaityté, ‘Large Dams and Community Acceptability: new insights to an old issue’
- Jacoline Knol, ‘Residential tourists in Guanacaste – discovering the foreigners voice’ (in collaboration with LANDac PhD Femke van Noorloos)
- Catalina Fernandez del Castillo Karsten, ‘Mining investments and CSR: a path to sustainable development?’
- Anneloes Tros, ‘Responsible business and the contribution of foreign investors to development in Ghana. Three case studies about the responsible business practices in the agro-sector in Ghana’

- James Sablerolles, ‘Responsible business for development. An outlook to how and the extend that enterprises and business people contribute to local development in the agricultural value chain’

- Merel Deelder, ‘The world of pesticides. Persticide spraying and health problems on the Argentinean pampas’

- Rodrigo Castro Volpe, ‘Environmental Services: Land use change and land access dynamics in the Delta del Paraná – Argentina’

- Mathieu Bardout, ‘The new flower: responsible business in the Ethiopian floriculture sector and its contribution to development in Ethiopia’ (internship report); ‘Enabling development through responsible business in the Ethiopian floriculture sector: both operational and structural challenge’

- Elma Lodder, ‘Pressure on land in peri-urban Vietnam: the impact of agricultural land conversion and the need for livelihood diversification in Thuy Duong commune’

- Michelle McLinden-Nuijen, ‘(In) The Way of Development. Industrial sugar production and dispossession in Sre Ambel district, SW Cambodia’

- M.J.E. Huizinga, ‘Impact of forest land allocation on rural livelihoods of Katu and Kinh households in Nam Dong district, Central Vietnam’

- M. Houben, ‘Effects of Forest Land Allocation on the livelihoods of the local Co Tu men and women in central Vietnam’

- C. Kratz, ‘Land ownership and development: The influence of Forest Land Allocation on land market development and local livelihoods in two communes in the north central coast of Vietnam’

- J.M.G. à Campo, ‘Impacts of Forest Land Allocation and Tourism Development on Forest-based Livelihoods in Rural Central Vietnam’

- K.H.H. Or, ‘Land Reform in the South African Wine Industry: Reviewing Equity Sharing Scheme in Stellenbosch’

E. Kariuki Kirigia, ‘A public-sector driven endeavor towards sustainable agriculture. A case study of the block-farming programme in Ghana’ (research project as part of the first year MSc trajectory Sustainable Development – IDS)

**Sociology of Development and Change (WUR)**

- N.A. Busscher, ‘Competing Claims over Land, a Case Study in Santiago del Estero, Argentina: Communities’ strategies to deal with Land Acquisitions’ (in collaboration with LANDac PhD Lucia Goldfarb)
- C. Piacenza (2012), ‘Negotiating gendered property relations over land: oil palm expansion in Kalangala district, Uganda’ (Erasmus Mundus project)

*African Studies Centre (Leiden University)*

- K. Kirchner, ‘Conflicts and politics in the Tana Delta, Kenya: an analysis of the 2012-2013 clashes and the general and presidential elections 2013: a study among leaders and displaced persons on political influences on the clashes and consequences of the clashes on the elections’
- I. Royal Kamya, ‘Non-traditional agricultural exports, value chains and smallholder agriculture: A Case Study of Kasese Smallholder Income and Investment Programme (KSIIP)’
- C. Lauterbach, ‘We’re all displaced, but some of us manage: Urban space and community formation among northern Ugandans in Kampala’
- S. de Wit, ‘Global warning: an ethnography of the encounter of global and local climate change discourses in the Bamenda grassfields, Cameroon’

**2.6.3 Other learning and training activities**

On 26 June, LANDac organized a new PhD seminar. One PhD and one recently finished PhD, both based in the Netherlands, and researching land-related subjects, presented respectively the current state of affairs of their research and the main outcomes of the research. Dimo Todorovski (ITC – Twente University) presented his research problem: ‘Can land administration in post conflict environments facilitate the post conflict state building’, and Femke van Noorloos presented on ‘Transnational land investment for tourism and real estate speculation’.

When in the Netherlands in November 2013, LANDac PhD Alda Salomão, discussed the further focus of her dissertation with Annelies Zoomers, Guus van Westen, Femke van Noorloos, Suseno Budidarsono and Gemma Betsema at IDS-UU.

**2.7 Platform function of LANDac**

**2.7.1 Website**

The website was used to announce our activities as well as activities of partners. Land governance related outputs were shared via our website. In general, LANDac has been updating the news and output section on the website more regularly. The possibilities for further updating the current website, to include more interactive features and an easier to use search function, has proceeded in 2013. It was decided that the development of a new website – in close collaboration with our current host, and LANDac partner HIVOS – will be taken up in the next year.


2.7.2 Mailing list

The international LANDac network has expanded from 36 organisations at the start in 2010 to around 100 organisations worldwide in our current database. These organisations link us to more than 300 persons worldwide (from 46 persons initially in 2010), including researchers and students, representatives from civil society organizations and farmers organizations, policy makers from the Dutch government as well as governments in the South, financiers, investors and entrepreneurs. Our new activity of the LANDforum has further expanded this network, now including representatives of organizations, governments and companies such as the WWF, ADM, University of the Campinas, SACAU, Uganda Land Alliance, CIRAD, Sinar Mas, the Nature Conservancy, IFAD, IIED, the World Bank and others, from Brazil, Indonesia, South Africa, Mozambique, Uganda and Ethiopia. The LANDforum has also contributed to the expansion of our private sector network in which different multi-national companies as well as small- and medium sized Dutch enterprises active in Africa have been brought together to discuss land investments and linkages to sustainable inclusive development and food security.

In 2013, we also formulated and produced short LANDac flyers, informing interested stakeholders about our main objectives, ongoing research activities and Summer School. The flyers were widely distributed at the World Bank Land and Poverty conference as well as during events in the Netherlands.

2.8 Coordination and advisory board

The Advisory Board of LANDac met on 30 September 2013 in Utrecht, the Netherlands. Sonja Vermeulen and Jaap Zevenbergen were updated about the activities of LANDac since the last AB meeting. Due to other obligations, Jun Borras and Paul Mathieu were unfortunately unable to attend the meeting, but they were briefed about LANDac’s activities through the annual report. Two important recommendations from the Advisory Board were to more clearly emphasize the ways in which LANDac work has impacted on policy making. For this reason, the current annual report has more explicitly highlighted our activities in that area. Another advice given was to take stock of the scientific publications LANDac partners and PhDs have, so far, produced. Also following up on this, LANDac is currently communicating with all our partners, PhDs, and associated short-term research projects, about the output and related publications that have been produced. A complete overview of this will become available in the first part of 2014.
LANDac partners met three times in 2013: in March, June and September. In addition to our general coordinating meetings, smaller groups of LANDac partners met regularly to discuss progress of diverse activities of the network. Some of the main meetings included:

- **26 April 2013**: LANDac partners IDS-UU (Guus van Westen and Annelies Zoomers), Agriterra (Jur Schuurman and Niek Thijsen), Hivos (Sjoerd Panhuysen), WUR (Gemma van der Haar) and KIT (Gerard Baltissen) met with Stephen Bayite, the principal researcher in the LANDac short-term research project on the role of farmer organizations in the land debate. The meeting existed of a short presentation of the researcher, followed with a discussion on next steps in the research.

- **19 June 2013**: LANDac partners IDS-UU (Guus van Westen) and KIT (John Belt), together with LANDac coordinator Gemma Betsema met with AidEnvironment (David Thelen) to discuss the short-term research project into responsible investments. KIT and AidEnvironment presented the cases that are used for the research and next steps were discussed.

- **14 November 2013**: LANDac partners IDS-UU (Guus van Westen) and KIT (John Belt), together with LANDac coordinator Gemma Betsema, met with AidEnvironment (David Thelen) for a half-day workshop to further work on the draft report of the short research.

- **19 December 2013**: LANDac partners IDS-UU (Annelies Zoomers and Guus van Westen), KIT (Gerard Baltissen), WUR (Gemma van der Haar) and LANDac coordinator Gemma Betsema met to discuss the design of the new short-term research project into the role of local government in governing commercial pressures on land.
2. LANDforum

In the course of 2013, the idea of a Netherlands-based and LANDac-organized forum for discussion and exchange of ideas and experiences around land investments has taken shape. The main question addressed is: under what conditions can foreign and domestic agribusiness contribute to food security and inclusive and sustainable development in Africa, Asia and Latin America? The first LANDforum took place on 6 and 7 November 2013 in Utrecht, the Netherlands. A detailed report of the discussions and exchanges that took place, as well as a list of participants, can be found in Annex 1 of this Annual Report.

The annual Land Forum creates and consolidates a think tank of private sector representatives, policy makers, practitioners and researchers who together search for new ways to optimize the link between land investments, food security and inclusive and sustainable development. Following the annual World Bank Land & Poverty Conference in April 2013, international stakeholders were brought together to explore the potential and constraints of the private sector to contribute to inclusive and sustainable development, focusing on land governance issues. The forum focuses on a number of countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America that are currently targeted by investors, or where foreign investment plays an important role in expanding the frontier of land investments: Brazil, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Mozambique and Uganda. By creating and consolidating a network, the forum plays an important role in establishing new corridors for exchanging information (between countries, both in the areas of origin and of destination) and making investments more effective for food security, and inclusive and sustainable development. These discussions will be linked also to discussions about Corporate Social Responsibility, the development of new guidelines and principles regarding investments in land and land governance and a new post-2015 development framework.

The discussions during the first forum meeting on 6 and 7 November took place among 40 participants from different countries, including experts and practitioners from Brazil, China, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Italy, Mozambique, South Africa, Uganda and United States. The forum lasted two full days and existed of plenary discussions and smaller working group sessions with feedback presentation for the group. The main aim was to draft the current state of affairs in the different countries regarding land-based investments, inclusive development and food security.
3. Planned activities of the annual plan against outcomes

The main part of the budget in 2013 was spent on PhD research activities. This part of our budget, however, will decrease in the coming two years. Two of the candidates have already finished their PhDs and one PhD trajectory will be finalized in the coming year. The post-doc position has not been filled yet, but will start the next year. In 2013 LANDac spent € 23.538 on open calls. This concerned payments of open calls that were awarded in 2012 to consortia of Agriterra/ UNFFE and IDS-UU/ KIT/ AidEnvironment. The new budget for the open call was not spent in 2013. However, a new research activity by LANDac consortium members KIT and WUR was started up in 2013; the budget for this will be spent in 2014. Linked to this new research, a write-shop will be developed by KIT. This budget will also be spent in 2014. Moreover, we have announced possibilities for providing seed money to small activities linked to the LANDforum discussions and priority themes. Funding decisions will be taken early 2014. In first instance, the call for short-term projects will be communicated to the LANDforum members. Depending on the interest of the members, the call can possibly be extended to a wider public. The synthesis study has largely been carried out and will be finalized in the first months of the next year. Discussions about the possibility to organize a tailor made training have continued among LANDac partners, and KIT has organized the first land governance course in the beginning of December in Burkina Faso. Based on the experiences with this course, LANDac will decide upon possibilities to organize a similar course the next year.

Budgets for the website and our virtual knowledge network maintenance have not yet been spent, but a website developer has been approached. LANDac partner Hivos has agreed to offer limited support to this activity. An international seminar was organized by LANDac around the theme of Gender and Land in Utrecht; a second planned international seminar around the theme of residential tourism was not yet taken up due to time constraints. The plan is to link the residential tourism topic to an existing conference. LANDac contributed to international initiatives through its participation in the World Bank Land and Poverty conference. This is also where the first discussions around the new LANDforum took place and potential participants were contacted.

Regarding coordination, an Advisory Board meeting was initially not planned, but LANDac partners decided it to be important to invite our AB members prior to the first LANDforum. This allowed for an opportunity to inform them about the forum and our other new activities as well as ask their input for the LANDforum. The members were invited in September, and one of them needed two flights in order to attend. The costs remain within the overall budget set for AB meetings. IS Academy coordination costs turned out slightly above budget, but will be somewhat lower again in the next year due to changes in the coordination team (which went from two to one person).

The LANDforum expenditures have turned out slightly lower than initially budgeted. This was mainly caused by the relative short timeframe for inviting participants which led to some of the members having other obligations and not able to attend the forum. The budget that remains will be spread over the coming two LANDforum meetings and additional participants have already been approached in 2013.

Although the realized budget in 2013 remains below planning, the majority of budgeted activities that have not yet been actually disbursed, have been started or taken up in 2014 and will be included in next year’s spending.
Lessons learned

The spending of the budget allocated for open calls for short-term research by consortium members and the wider land community remains to be challenge. The first rounds of short-term research projects funded by LANDac were formulated quite broad and intended to contribute to the objective of land governance contributing to sustainable and equitable development. Now, a few years later, more research has been started up relating to land governance. The expansion of research programmes and the increase of knowledge make it more pertinent to clearer carve out topics for research where we can still add substantially to the on-going debates. And especially subjects where our strengths as an established community of practice have a value added. This process has taken longer than initially planned. One of the topics that we came up with is the role of local governments in governing increasing commercial pressures on land; this has largely been a knowledge gap in current research. Another subject where LANDac aims to make a difference is that of the links between agricultural investments, food security and inclusive sustainable development. Our LANDforum activities link directly to these topics, and following the first forum in November 2013, future short-term research will be scoped towards these topics.
## LANDac Work plan 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Output</th>
<th>Results</th>
<th>Budget 2014 (in euros)</th>
<th>Time frame 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Knowledge generation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1.1</td>
<td>PhD research project Lucia Goldfarb</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>24.484</td>
<td>Q1-Q2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1.1</td>
<td>PhD research project Maru Shete</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>15.000</td>
<td>Q1-Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1.1</td>
<td>PhD research project Alda Salomão</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>15.000</td>
<td>Q1-Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1.2</td>
<td>Post doc</td>
<td>Development fundable proposals for LANDac continuation as a platform/network</td>
<td>25.000</td>
<td>Q1-Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2.1</td>
<td>Short-term research project 1 \textit{Completed}</td>
<td>Role of farmer organizations: Follow-up</td>
<td>1.500</td>
<td>Q3-Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2.1</td>
<td>Short-term research project 2 \textit{Completed}</td>
<td>Responsible business: Follow-up</td>
<td>1.500</td>
<td>Q3-Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2.1</td>
<td>Short-term research project 3</td>
<td>Local governance</td>
<td>25.000</td>
<td>Q1-Q2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2.2</td>
<td>New research (open/closed call)</td>
<td>Knowledge development around priority themes/gaps (to be decided/including desk-study into land governance activities of the Ministry)</td>
<td>100.000</td>
<td>Q1-Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>Desk-studies completed at the request of partners/policy briefs (also based on PhD research)</td>
<td>Findings from and follow-up of completed short-term research projects</td>
<td>12.000</td>
<td>Q1-Q2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>Two write-shops</td>
<td>Linked to short-term research projects of LANDac; PhD studies; LANDforum</td>
<td>10.000</td>
<td>Q1-Q2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Education and training</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>Summer school, PhD seminar</td>
<td>Training of students and</td>
<td>6.000</td>
<td>Q3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>series</td>
<td>professionals on land governance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>Tailor made training</td>
<td>Exploring the possibilities for organizing a LANDac training on land governance in Africa; possibly linked to requests by (to be decided)</td>
<td>15.000</td>
<td>Q1-Q2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>Internships with partner organizations</td>
<td>Training of students</td>
<td>p.m.</td>
<td>Q1-Q4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3 Knowledge management

| 3.1    | Updating website | Updating the website and other online activities | 4.000 | Q1-Q2 |
| 3.2    | Virtual community of practice operational | Other new possibilities for sharing knowledge, linked to the website | 2.000 | Q1-Q2 |
| 3.5    | Lectures/ presentations | Organization of lunch meetings, lectures, presentations around emerging topics | 1.000 | Q1-Q4 |
| 3.5    | Seminars (3) | Sharing of research results with academic community, practitioners and policy makers through the organization of a series of seminars about topics that LANDac has addressed (three or four; subjects to be decided) | 20.000 | Q1-Q4 |
| 3.5    | Book launch | The global land grab: beyond the hype, book launch | 5.000 | Q1 |
| 3.9    | Contribution to international initiatives | Linking IS Academy work the World Bank Land & Poverty Conference by organizing a panel proposal | 10.000 | Q1-Q2 |

4 Consolidation; internal coordination, monitoring and evaluation

| 4.4    | Advisory Board | Advisory Board meeting | 2.000 | Q3-Q4 |
| 4.7    | Coordination (time) | Coordination IS Academy | 39.000 | Q1-Q4 |
|        | Meeting costs | Four partnership meetings | 1.500 | Q1-Q4 |
|        | Material | Material IS Academy | 1.000 | Q1-Q4 |
|        | Travel costs | Travel costs IS Academy | 2.000 | Q1-Q4 |
|        | Unforeseen | 10.000 | Q1-Q4 |

Total budget LANDac 2014 | 347,984
LANDforum Work plan 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Output</th>
<th>Results</th>
<th>Budget 2014 (in euros)</th>
<th>Time frame 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>Preparations</td>
<td>Substantive programming and alignment with WB activities (participation in the WB Conference)</td>
<td>1.250</td>
<td>Q1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>Travel grants for stakeholder participation</td>
<td>Knowledge sharing international experts (organization of the second LANDforum in November 2014)</td>
<td>40.000</td>
<td>Q3-Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>Venue and accommodation</td>
<td>Stakeholder meeting (LANDforum November 2014)</td>
<td>20.000</td>
<td>Q3-Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>Coordination</td>
<td>Coordination LANDforum</td>
<td>30.000</td>
<td>Q3-Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total budget LANDforum 2014</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>91.250</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Annual work plan 2014 LANDac and LANDforum

1 Knowledge generation

Two out of five LANDac PhD trajectories have been completed; the other three LANDac PhD students are continuing in 2014. Both finalized PhDs are currently drafting policy briefs for the wider dissemination of their research results. These documents will become available in 2014. In addition to the PhD trajectories, LANDac will develop a Post doc fellowship; with the aim to develop fundable proposals for continuing especially our function as a platform/ network beyond the current IS Academy funding. A new short-term research project will be started, looking at the role of local level state institutions (municipalities, districts, “communes”) in regulating processes of land acquisition and preventing land grabbing. This research complements two almost finalized short-term research projects focusing on the role of farmer organizations in the land debate and the role of responsible business in investments in land and agriculture. Complementarily, we will discuss follow-up possibilities for the three short-term research projects (farmer organizations, responsible business, local governance). In 2014 we will also organize two write-shops; possibly linking to the short-term research projects, the finalized PhD trajectories and/or LANDforum activities. Opportunities for new research (open call/ closed call) will be discussed in 2014. Possible new research projects were also discussed in 2013, which led to the request for a study into the role of local government in regulating processes of land acquisition (see above). With the introduction of LANDforum activities, additional new research possibilities will be discussed again 2014. LANDac partner the Ministry of Foreign Affairs requested a LANDac-supervised study into outputs and results of projects and programmes on land governance supported by the Netherlands. Other possibilities for new research links to LANDforum outcomes, in collaboration with the participants of the LANDforum.
2 Education and training

LANDac will organize a two-week Summer School on Land Governance for Development at Utrecht University in 2014. We will explore possibilities to organize a tailor made training on land governance for English-speaking countries in East Africa, provided that such training does not overlap with available funding possibilities by the Tailor-made Trainings (TMT) of NUFFIC. Possible structure and content of this training will be based on the experiences with a similar French-language course currently organized by LANDac partner KIT in West Africa. The demand for such trainings should play a decisive role and Embassies or Southern partner organizations could be channeling these demands. In addition to the Summer School and trainings, we continue to organize internships for students from the academic LANDac partners with our various partner organizations, such as the current internships for Utrecht University students with Agriterra partners in Eastern Africa. In addition, we will look into possibilities for disseminating internship possibilities through the website of LANDac.

3 Knowledge management

The LANDac website will be renewed, making it a more interactive platform with potentially online discussion possibilities for LANDforum members (a need expressed by the LANDforum members during the first meeting). We still have a budget for the development of multi-media projects to disseminate experiences, for which activities are being explored. This could be the organization of an event/ produce output related to its virtual community of practice or can be linked to the final seminar of LANDac. Knowledge sharing on emerging themes will continue through the organization of lunch meetings, lectures and presentations, both for scientific partners, practitioners and policymakers. We will organize three to four seminars/ meetings in 2014 (possible subjects include residential tourism as a follow-up of LANDac PhD research, responsible business as a follow-up of LANDac short-term research, ‘ICT as a driver of transformation’ linking to activities of LANDac partner Hivos, other possible subjects to be decided). The exact format of these seminars/ meetings needs to be decided, also depending on the public and content. Further, LANDac aims to organize a round table discussion during the World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty (linked to outcomes of the LANDforum).

4 Consolidation; internal coordination, monitoring and evaluation

The Advisory Board members will be invited in 2014 to discuss and provide input for the final conference of LANDac as well as reflection on our general activities and progress. Small budgets are planned for four partner meetings in 2014, material (flyers etc.) and travel. For coordination of the IS Academy, an amount of 39.000 is budgeted. All costs comply with the approved project budget.

5 LANDforum

In 2014, LANDac will participate in the annual World Bank conference on Land and Poverty in order to identify emerging themes and possible experts for participation in the LANDforum. At the same time, we aim to organize a round table discussion (see LANDac, knowledge management) during the conference in which we address issues raised during the LANDforum discussions and aim to include LANDforum participants. For organizing the second LANDforum in November 2014, we provide travel grants to selected expert contributors.
Conclusion

The annual work plan for 2014 shows on the one hand a continuation of activities such as the PhD trajectories, and the annual Summer School. Because smaller activities (write shops, virtual community of practice) have not been carried out as much in our first years of operation, LANDac plans to increase its activities and spending in these areas in the coming year. Something we planned to do in 2013, but which has been postponed, also for better alignment with LANDforum activities and outcomes. As LANDac is now a few years underway, more output (finalized PhD projects, a number of short-term research projects) is available to build upon for smaller activities, such as write shops and the production of policy briefs. Important in further developing our community of practice is a new website which will offer a more interactive sharing of knowledge and activities, and outputs generated so far (publications and reports). By creating the LANDforum, we have also started to further consolidate our network function. We will continue with this in 2014 through the organization of the second LANDforum meeting in November 2014.

Building upon this strategy of aligning LANDac and LANDforum activities and consolidating the network function of LANDac also through the LANDforum, we propose to align the project periods of activities of LANDac and the LANDforum. The LANDforum will take place again in November 2014 and in November 2015; with final reporting at the World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty in 2016. We see possibilities to extend the project period of the IS Academy LANDac without additional funding, until 30 April 2016. A budget neutral extension of LANDac would allow us to better link LANDac activities to outcomes of the LANDforum (for example through carrying out short-term research projects linked to priority topics raised during the LANDforum); more flexibility in responding to emerging issues around land (land is still a hot topic in policy- and scientific discussions; e.g. land in the post-2015 agenda); as well as allow for further consolidation of LANDac activities into a network beyond the IS Academy funding.
Under what conditions can foreign and domestic agribusiness contribute to food security and inclusive and sustainable development in Africa, Asia and Latin America?

Report of the 2013 LANDforum meeting

- INTERNAL WORKING DOCUMENT, NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION -

INTRODUCTION

On the 7th and 8th of November, 2013, the Netherlands Academy on Land Governance for Equitable and Sustainable Development (LANDac) and the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs organized the first LANDforum meeting in Utrecht. The LANDforum intends to function as a think-tank of private sector representatives, policy makers, practitioners and researchers who are searching for new ways to optimize the links between land investments, food security and inclusive and sustainable development. The core question is: Under what conditions can foreign and domestic investment contribute to inclusive sustainable development and food security?

The forum includes participants from Brazil, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Mozambique, Uganda and the Netherlands. Forum meetings will be organized in 2013, 2014 and 2015. This will provide continuity in the debate and will allow for consolidation of the network. The first meeting was used to explore the current situation in each of the selected countries, to set the agenda, and to identify the topics for research and debate. This report provides a summary of the presentations and discussions during the two-day meeting.

THURSDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2013 – INTRODUCING THE COUNTRIES

Welcome (Annelies Zoomers)

The idea to establish LANDac as a partnership to stimulate debate and research on issues related to land investments emerged around 2007. Since then many studies have been conducted by LANDac and others. What have we learned? We now know that millions of hectares are targeted for land acquisitions, particularly in Africa, and that this is not only for the production of food and biofuels, but also for other purposes such as nature conservation, reforestation and urbanization. We also

8 Report by Koen Kusters (www.wereldinwoorden.nl)

9 LANDac is a partnership of International Development Studies (Utrecht University), African Studies Centre (Leiden University), Agriterra, Disaster Studies (Wageningen University), HIVOS, Royal Tropical Institute, Triodos Facet, and the Sustainable Economic Development department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (see www.landgovernance.org for more information about LANDac and its activities).
know who is involved. It is not just Asian countries that are looking for land in Africa, but other actors play important roles as well – think of European companies, investment funds, domestic elites and local and national governments. Lastly, we have learned about the impacts of large-scale land acquisitions. They can transform landscapes into monocultures, with negative environmental impacts. The social impacts are negative when local communities are bypassed or displaced, or when acquisitions are accompanied with conflicts over land. This knowledge base is our starting point.

Why initiating yet another forum? The set-up of this forum is different from the usual conferences and seminars. It is a long-term commitment, based on personal contact, and has a strong representation of the business community. The LANDforum aims to provide a platform for innovative ideas and a space for constructive discussions and inter-country comparisons, in an atmosphere of trust. One of the objectives of this first meeting is to set the agenda – exploring ideas that exist among the participants and discuss ways to implement those ideas in the coming years.

Welcome (Frits van der Wal)

In the early 2000s the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs started realizing that land governance is an essential condition for inclusive economic development. Land tenure security appeared as one of the main bottlenecks for farmers and other entrepreneurs. In 2007 the Ministry of Foreign Affairs started mapping who was working on this topic within the other ministries and at universities and NGOs. In that same year the idea was born to establish an academy on land issues, in order to develop more and better linkages between the ministries and the academic world, NGOs and the private sector. We invited consortia to come with proposals, and eventually decided to provide funding for LANDac. Over the last years LANDac has had significant influence at the policy level in the Netherlands. The idea to create a LANDforum emerged along the way, which is typical for the open and flexible character of the consortium. We hope the LANDforum will be able to make the transition from stating what goes wrong towards identifying movements and actions to influence actors on the ground.

Setting the scene – Why are we here? (Guus van Westen)

There are two main processes that influence land acquisitions. Firstly, natural resources are increasingly scarce, while the world’s population is growing and an increasing number of people are moving into middle class lifestyles. Since 2000 prices for agricultural commodities and other natural resources have been increasing. This is a clear break with the decreasing trend of prices of natural resources relative to other commodities since 1900. Secondly, there is the process of globalization. More and more countries are integrated into the global economy, which is reflected in the increasing importance of international trade and investment flows. Globalization also implies a shift in governance and regulation. During most of the 20th century rulemaking was mostly contained within nation states and foreigners were usually not even allowed to obtain land. Today the situation is very different. Borders have become porous and obstacles for accessing land rights have been removed. Also, land rights within individual countries are no longer just framed within national regulation, but also in investment treaties and international fora like the WTO.
The International Development Studies group at Utrecht University recently conducted a study in Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, Rwanda and South Africa, exploring how Dutch investors perform in terms of Corporate Social Responsibility. The study looked at: agribusinesses, such as high tech flower production; chain organizers with outgrower schemes for niche markets like organic products; companies that deliver services to the agricultural sector (e.g., consultancies and equipment); and intensive agriculture for domestic niche markets (often dairy and meat, for upscale local markets). These were mostly small and medium enterprises and several of them would not have existed without Dutch policy instruments to stimulate investments (e.g., the Private Sector Investment Program).

The study found that, although it is true that businesspeople are primarily motivated by profit making objectives, a fair number of the Dutch entrepreneurs had as additional motivation the wish to contribute positively to local communities. Still, the direct development contributions of the investments appeared limited. There is some contribution in terms of employment generation and export revenues, but the Dutch investments cannot be considered major building blocks for local development. Indirect development contributions are potentially more important. This refers to the linkages between Dutch companies and local farms and businesses, for example as suppliers. The problem, however, is the high-tech nature of some of the Dutch companies. Flower growers in Ethiopia are a case in point. They need to secure all their inputs from abroad. And their main markets are outside of the country too. National policies tend to focus on attracting investments, but are seldom stimulating the development of local linkages. As a last point Guus van Westen stresses that, although the private sector is important, it cannot be expected to cover all development needs. You need the public sector and other actors to spread the effects.

**State of affairs in the various countries**

In the early afternoon of the first day of the LANDforum meeting the participants work in groups to prepare presentations about the state of affairs in their respective countries. Participants from the Netherlands join the various groups, based on their experience and interest. The main questions discussed are: (i) What examples can you give of positive land investments – i.e., cases of positive business results along with clear benefits for local people? (ii) Taking ‘your’ experience as the point of departure, what can others learn from you? And (iii) what do you see as the main challenge for optimizing the development impact? In the afternoon each of the working groups report back in a plenary session. Summaries of the presentations and subsequent discussions are provided below.

**Ethiopia**

In Ethiopia it is common for investors to go the Ethiopian government to lease lands without involving the communities that live on those lands. A positive example presented here shows that an entrepreneur can go to the community (that usually has the usufruct right to the land) to negotiate a deal. As the lands are used for the production of grass, in this specific case the lease fee is linked to the development of the grass market. Only after agreement with the community he will approach the government. Most of the people from the involved communities end up working on the new farm using improved seed varieties.
Another positive example is the Ethiopian Horticultural Producers and Exporters Association (EHPEA), which developed a code of practice for flower-farms that are for 50% owned by Dutch companies. A more contested example is that of the state-owned sugar plantations in Ethiopia. In this case farmers pool their village lands for the cultivation of sugar palm, while the company provides irrigation and inputs. Currently farmers seem content, but what if the price of sugar collapses? Moreover, it is unclear whether the farmers can get their land back.

On a more general note, the Ethiopian group expresses worries concerning the dominant model of monoculture plantations, as investors tend to have little attention to crop rotation and crop diversification. The main challenge identified by the Ethiopian group is the high cost and long timeframe of investments in practices that include local communities. There is a need for government support to cover initial costs. There may also be a need for a neutral party to ensure that government support actually ends up with smallholders and to assist local communities who are usually not well organized and lack legal knowledge.

During the discussion the example of Mozambique is mentioned, where the national government has installed a special program that enables communities to invite investors themselves. As part of this program the government makes sure that the involved communities are aware of their rights and opportunities. The Mozambique government also works with a community investment fund, which functions as a broker between communities and companies, dealing with the legal aspects in negotiations.

**Brazil**

The Brazil group mentions several positive examples, such as the moratorium on soy and cattle coming from the Amazon biome, which has resulted in reduced pressure on the natural forest. The Brazilian government installed a program on low carbon agriculture to help producers with the regeneration of degraded areas through the provision of low-interest loans, and provides subsidies to collectors of non-timber forest product (e.g., rubber and brazil nuts). There is a special credit program for family farmers, who constitute more than half of all agricultural producers, often focusing on products like chickens, eggs, milk and vegetables. The Brazilian government also has programs to support certification, e.g., for soy, sugar, and oilpalm. *Archer Daniels Midland* (ADM), one of the largest agricultural processors in the world currently produces 200.000 tonnes of certified soy for export to Europe. *Natura*, a large cosmetics company, works with Fair Trade certification.

Despite these positive examples many challenges remain. The main problem may well be the fact that property rights for many smallholders are not (yet) formalized. The development of proper infrastructure remains a challenge as well, and there is a lack of transparency, for example related to ownership of businesses. Moreover, there is a general lack of proper enforcement of laws and regulations.

The Brazilian group highlights the importance of stakeholder consultations, clear rules and regulations (and their enforcement), and clear criteria to evaluate positive and negative aspects of projects. In addition, the group emphasizes the need for policies to stimulate payments for environment services.
The presentation generates some discussion on the role of Brazilian companies overseas. It is mentioned that Brazilian investors that are active in Africa tend to have high standards. These standards are not just related to the environment, but also related to the welfare of employees and local communities (e.g., health insurance and speed limits). This functions as an eye-opener for other companies that are operating in Africa.

Uganda

The Ugandan group identifies the following criteria to evaluate land investments: local community participation; land rights of the community; environmental safeguards; transparency of the deal; compliance with national regulations; and visible employment opportunities and other benefits for communities.

The group shares the example of the Bukonzo joint farmers cooperative, producing coffee for export. It is based on a shareholder approach, i.e., members buy shares of the cooperative. They have their own set of regulations. One of the rules is that land ownership needs to be shared between husband and wife (which means the man cannot sell the land without the consent of the woman). They also have a micro-finance system in place, through which farmers can borrow money, which allows them to store their agricultural produce after the harvest, so they can wait for the price of their agricultural produce to increase.

Another positive example is that of the vegetable oil development project on Kalangala Island, which is a public-private partnership based on an outgrower scheme. The project was initiated by the government and is based on an agreement about rights and obligations between all actors, including a buying commitment by the investor and a transparent pricing formula. Farmers feel secure that they will not be cheated, which is partly due to the fact that the government is involved. The involvement of the government builds confidence among both the farmers and the private sector actors. The example on Kalangala Island shows that such public-private partnerships may take a long time to establish, but are worthwhile.

In the discussion it is mentioned that the success of the Kalangala project may have been helped by the fact that the area is thinly populated, with large tracts of land that were not (intensively) used. The government acquired these lands from their rightful owners, and whenever there were tenants involved, the government also dealt with them. Eventually there were little or no conflicts in the Kalangala case. There are other experiences in Uganda where such projects did not turn out that well.

Mozambique

The Mozambican group stresses that conflicts over land are not only about the law, but also about the implementation of the law and power relations. Positive land investments are characterized by clear and honest negotiations and the full participation of communities in those negotiations. Mozambique has some good experiences with the training of so-called paralegals to inform communities on legal issues. Mozambique also initiated a Land Consultative Forum – involving the government, communities, the private sector and NGOs – which meets twice a year. Although they
do not have any regulation power, they can make recommendations to the government. Recently Mozambique installed a new regulation according to which each investor is obliged to use 10% of the area for food crop production. Next to that, smallholders must cultivate at least 30% of the area.

Based on the Mozambican experiences, the group draws two main lessons. Firstly, it is important to avoid labeling things too negatively as this may crowd out the people that you need to negotiate with; it is important to avoid creating a negative attitude from beginning. Secondly, community participation is costly – there is an example of a company that had 48 meetings with a community related to a cattle deal. But unlawful acquisition is not sustainable in the long term, so it is better to pay the price for participation.

In Mozambique the national law related to land acquisitions is relatively well developed, but the challenge lies in its proper implementation. For this, political stability is essential. Moreover, land is only part of the issue. To raise food production you do not only need land, but also fertilizers, access to information, markets, etcetera. As a last point, the importance of past and current conflicts on land issues is stressed. Conflicts greatly influence land administration in many African countries, and this issue needs to be on the table.

The national farmers association in Mozambique – which has a membership of 80,000 out of a total of 4 million farmers – has a voice in the national debate on land acquisitions. The discussion focuses on whether there are similar initiatives in other countries. In Uganda the national farmers federation is supposed to be the farmers’ voice, but in reality it is hijacked for political purposes. During the last 20 years the voice of smallholders and landless in Brazil is increasingly being heard, and the government installed a credit program to support them, but they have little political power as they are not organized.

**Indonesia**

The Indonesian group gives an overview of the economic, social and environment impacts of six sectors (mining, agriculture, forestry, property, tourism and infrastructure). After that they zoom in on palm oil plantations. There are several noticeable differences between the period before 1998, when Indonesia had a centralized authoritarian government, and the period after 1998, when Indonesia entered into a process of far-going decentralization. Before 1998 the focus was on raw material production, while now the emphasis is on processing and adding value. There is a moratorium on oil palm expansion into primary forest and deep peat areas, which has further stimulated a shift from land-based production to technology-based production. Also, in recent years Indonesia has introduced standards following the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) and the Indonesian Sustainable Palm Oil (ISPO) system.

After 1998 it has become possible for smallholders to get land permits. Recently the government has installed a new regulation that limits ownership of individual businesses to 100,000 hectares. Moreover, after 5 years the owner of a mill has to sell shares to the cooperating farmers. The target starts at 5%, but over time this increases to 30% of the company’s shares.

A problem, according to the Indonesian group, is that it is difficult for smallholders to get the same yields as big companies. This means that companies will have to assist the smallholders. Another key challenge in Indonesia is that many people do not have officially documented rights on the lands.
they cultivate. RSPO certification demands Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) in the case of oil palm plantation establishment, which is a step in the right direction.

The discussion focuses on the idea of smallholders investing in the processing company. Is this happening or applicable in other countries? And, will farmers have the money to actually do so? Brazil had some experiences, with different levels of success. There was, for example, a high level of smallholder participation in the production of orange juice, until the contracts were suddenly broken. It is also mentioned that smallholders are likely to benefit as soon as the company has made the necessary investments in infrastructure and market networks.

**Friday 8 November 2013 – Introducing the sectors**

**Meeting the different sectors**

In the morning of the second day the participants split up in sector groups to reflect upon the following question: *What can you in your sector do to ensure that investment in agriculture/land happens in a way so that local people benefit more?* After the breakout groups each sector reports back in a plenary session. A summary of the presentations and discussions is provided below.

**Business**

The participants in the business group have experience with various approaches. One of the presented Ethiopian businesses is seed-driven, but this requires investment in smallholder agricultural practices in order to make the seed business viable. In five years the entrepreneur wants to be able to focus entirely on seeds. In another Ethiopian example, the entrepreneur organizes farmers around a business plan, using economic simulation models to show where the profits are. Farmers know how to farm, but the business part is often lacking. The entrepreneurs’ experiences with organized farmer groups in Africa have not been too positive; they are said to lack leadership and human capacity to build viable businesses. Examples in Indonesia show a much better experience with farmer cooperatives. The business group agrees that cooperatives will not work when they are based on just social or political motivations – they should primarily be focused on business objectives.

The situation in South Africa is that large-scale farmers have reached the limits of land and water availability, and are therefore jumping the borders. They obtain tracts of land in other African countries, e.g., from Mozambican communities and from the government of Congo-Brazzaville. Large agricultural corporations usually organize the downstream trade and finance the large-scale farmers, on the condition that they take a number of small-scale farmers under their wings. This essentially means that large-scale farmers use their mechanized equipment to work on both their own as well as the smallholders’ lands. The aim is that seven percent of the smallholders eventually develop into large-scale commercial farmers.

What can policymakers and NGOs do to help responsible business becoming more profitable? According to one participant, governments and NGOs all too often try to interfere in businesses, which he thinks works counterproductive. He emphasizes the need for an enabling environment,
namely in the form of infrastructure and a legal framework. When the enabling environment is in place, businesses will grow. Someone else stresses that it is all about profitability. Most businessmen are not that interested in the welfare of smallholders – they will pay them just enough to keep the peace. These businessmen will only change their practices if they can get a premium price for involving smallholders. It is also argued that financiers play a crucial role. Financing for agricultural operations in Africa often comes from big players in the US and Europe (e.g., the Rabobank). These financiers can install stricter rules about what they finance and how. Even when they already work with standards and principles (e.g., the OECD guidelines), the implementation can be improved. Moreover, insurance companies and pension funds invest in stock indexes, and have no clue in the details of the companies they invest in.

**Civil society**

Civil society has an important role to play in the creation of an enabling environment for businesses in a manner that goes further than merely deregulation. Civil society organizations need to work on the empowerment of communities and farmers, to improve their knowledge about rights and legal issues, so they are better prepared when entering into negotiations about land deals. Civil society organizations should not be engaged in negotiations directly, but should look at the broader issues. There is also a role for civil society organization (in collaboration with researchers) to look for, and disseminate information about alternative choices that communities can make. Civil society organizations should ensure that knowledge goes up from the communities to higher levels, and from higher levels back into the communities. A major weakness of civil society is the lack of cooperation, and competing strategies, which is not in the interest of communities. There is a need for more coherence.

In the discussion the Dutch Sustainable Trade Initiative (IDH) is put forward as a positive example of the role civil society can play to stimulate more sustainable and responsible business. Fair Trade is mentioned as an important initiative to promote smallholder involvement. Civil society and responsible businesses are allies and therefore need to form strategic partnerships.

**Public sector**

Governments have multiple roles, including: providing leadership and long-term planning; developing and implementing regulations, policies and codes of conduct to ensure benefit sharing; organizing multi-stakeholder dialogues; ensuring transparency and fairness in land deals; promoting catalytic funds for structural and strategic investments and assisting startups; and aligning centralized and decentralized land administration. Next to national and local governments, policy research institutions have their own set of tasks. They should give policy advice and develop practical solutions for the government.

The idea is put forward that governments involved in land acquisitions can work with ‘shareholder arrangements on development rights’. For example: when a government purchases land for the construction of a train station and surrounding shopping area, it would normally simply pay a compensation fee based on the market value of the land at that point in time. The value of the land, however, is highly volatile – it may have doubled within two years after the transaction. The
government could therefore provide the previous landowner with a ‘development share’, for example by offering a portion of the shopping space.

In the discussion more examples of government interventions are mentioned. In Indonesia the government puts higher taxes on the export of raw materials, to encourage local processing. The Ugandan Ministry of Tourism has developed a system for sharing ten percent of the revenues of the country’s national parks with the surrounding communities, which has reduced hostilities and stimulated co-management. In Ethiopia the government purchased lands at a market price, created a land bank, and then looked for the most appropriate investors through a bidding system. The final selection of investors is based on a number of transparent criteria.

Researchers

Research is about evidence-based knowledge generation. According to the research group there is an urgent need for comparative analyses of different business models and their impacts on local people. This should of course take into account the various contexts, as a model that works in one place may not work in another. It is important to understand the circumstances and conditions for success. Research should also focus on possible alternatives, which may imply challenging existing practices and norms. It should help to make people think outside of their own boxes. The research community should create relationships of trust with all stakeholders, including the private sector.

Should researchers be actively engaged in processes on the ground? Most researchers agree that it is not their role to do advocacy, but that early engagement of stakeholders (including farmers) in research projects is required in order to identify the most relevant research questions. At the same time, researchers should make sure to stay independent. Too much focus on the practical short-term usefulness of research may eventually work as a barrier for good research with a long-term impact.

Two challenges are mentioned. Firstly, researchers in Africa will need to develop research agendas that are relevant to the local context, instead of following western research agendas. Secondly, how to make sure that information acquired through research is properly disseminated to actors on the ground? In Uganda there is ample experience with sharing research results with the end-users, for example using posters, cartoons and videos.

Private sector participants stress the need for practical and technical knowledge, for example related to farm-system classification and land classifications. They also emphasize the need for research and dissemination in the field of agricultural techniques and seed development. It is mentioned that research is often too conceptual and that there is a severe lack of knowledge about the economics of smallholder farms, particularly regarding labor profiles.

Back to the countries

In the afternoon the participants return to the country groups to discuss possibilities for follow up. Below is a summary of the ideas brought up during the final plenary session on the second day of the Land Forum.

Indonesia
Indonesia is having significant success with the production of palm oil, but the production of food crops and horticulture by smallholders is lacking behind. While the country is the world’s largest producer of palm oil, many food products have to be imported. The Indonesian group therefore thinks there is a need for guided investments in food production and horticulture, which first and foremost requires land-use planning. Next to that, policy instruments could be developed to stimulate certain types of production, e.g., decreasing taxes on horticultural products.

Brazil

The Brazilian group mentions it could learn from Indonesia in terms of smallholder involvement in palm oil production. They also stress the need for more interaction between modern knowledge and local knowledge, for example on intercropping, agroforestry and non-timber forest products. In Brazil, land administration and the development of a cadastre are of crucial importance. An inter-ministerial group is currently working on this issue and research is required to inform this process.

Ethiopia

The Ethiopian group sees certification as a promising option, at least for the short-term. Certification stimulates businesses to involve smallholders by making it financially rewarding. In the long-term the premium prices are expected to decrease, as more and more businesses will adopt similar standards. When smallholder involvement has become the norm, the premium price will disappear all together, and there will no longer be a need for certification. The Ethiopian group also discussed other options to improve smallholder production. It may, for example, be possible for smallholders to specialize in certain niche products, like saffron. Also, the business of Jan van de Haar is considered a promising model.

Mozambique

Land investments should never compromise tenure security of communities or private actors, says the Mozambican group. For this reason local level negotiations are crucial, but it is often difficult to enforce agreements reached at the local level. This needs more attention. There also is a need to improve the understanding of different models of benefit sharing, which includes knowledge about technical options such as crop rotation and diversification. Next to benefit sharing, the possibility to issue a moratorium for certain areas would need to be looked into. These issues can be discussed in the Mozambican Land Consultative Forum.

Uganda

The Ugandan group identifies several follow up activities. More basic information will need to be obtained, which includes the mapping of land-use and land ownership, and assessments of currently existing business models. Then there is a need to look at the possibilities of benefit sharing in alternative models, and to further develop and test the most interesting models, while documenting the experiences. Finally the outcomes of that work should be used to inform policies. The Ugandan group supports the idea of creating a national platform that includes investors, the government, civil
society and researchers to discuss the issues at stake and to identify solutions. The Land Consultative Forum in Mozambique serves as an example that could be followed.

**Wrap up and follow up**

Annelies Zoomers identifies some topics emerging during the Land Forum. Firstly, there is the need for impact assessments of different business models. Secondly, there is a need to make an inventory of experiences with benefit sharing in the different countries. Thirdly, several participants have highlighted the value of developing national multi-stakeholder platforms. These are concrete issues that the Land Forum could follow up upon.

It is suggested that the forum could focus on identifying successful cases of benefit sharing, which could be brought to the mainstream media, and which could be used to develop criteria for government funding programs. Frits van der Wal argues that the focus should be identified per country. Participants can build on the discussions within the Land Forum to identify their own priorities, catered to the national realities. Participants of the Land Forum should thus first develop their own agenda, and then look where the interesting partnerships can be made, rather than the other way around. The bigger picture, and links to larger processes, will have to grow over time.

The last day of the Land Forum meeting ends with some practical agreements. The report of the Land Forum will be circulated and subsequently participants are requested to share the priorities for their respective countries with the LANDac team in Utrecht, which will then make a synthesis and identify priorities. In addition to the annual meeting, participants of the Land Forum will try to meet on other occasions, for example in the form of exchange visits, or at international meetings. The first opportunity will be at the World Bank Land & Poverty Conference in Washington DC in April 2014. The Land Forum will try to organize a side event there, focusing on a comparative assessment of business models that are oriented towards benefit sharing. A small team of Land Forum members will write a proposal for this. The possibility of an online platform is mentioned, to facilitate discussions about follow-up activities and to exchange ideas. Such a platform could also be used to exchange information about meetings and other relevant activities in the respective countries. Lastly, different Land Forum members provide suggestions for additional participants in the two coming Land Forum meetings in 2014 and 2015. The next meeting in November 2014 could possibly be held in Ethiopia or in one of the other participating countries.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Land Forum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In cooperation with the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Netherlands Academy on Land Governance for Equitable and Sustainable Development (LANDac) made a selection of people who were invited to become member of the LANDforum. LANDac aims to link the LANDforum to its current activities such as the organization of lectures, lunch meetings, and PhD network activities. LANDforum activities will, where possible, be organized in collaboration with the EU Working Group on Land Issues, the Global Donor Working Group on Land, the International Land Coalition, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the World Bank, the Land Portal, the Agri-ProFocus network and other stakeholders.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Participants LANDac Land Forum 2013

Mozambique
- João Carrilho jcarrilhoster@gmail.com
- André Vonk andre.senwes@tdm.co.mz
- Célia Jordão celia.jordao@minbuza.nl
- Theo de Jager cdpalms@mweb.co.za

Brazil
- Bastiaan Reydon basrey@eco.unicamp.br
- Cynthia Cominesi cynthia.cominesi@wwf.org.br
- Amanda Cosenza Amanda.Cosenza@adm.com
- Pablo Pacheco P.Pacheco@cgiar.org

Uganda
- Medius Bihunirwa bmedius@krcug.org
- Hans Joosse hans@mwh4impact.com (CC: wytzke@mwh4impact.com)
- Esther Obaikol eobaikol@gmail.com
- Connie Masaba conniemasaba@vodp.or.ug

Ethiopia
- Aklilu Amsalu amsalu.akiilu@gmail.com
- Gerrit Holtland gerrit@ctrt.nl
- Jan van de Haar solagrow@gmail.com

Indonesia
- Suseno Budidarsono s.budidarsono@cgiar.org
- Wahjudi Wardoyo wwardoyo@tnc.org
- Henky Widjaja mangkasara01@yahoo.com
- Tony Liwang tony-liwang@smart-tbk.com
- Arif Budiman sppciamis@yahoo.com
- Gamma Galudra G.Galudra@cgiar.org

International
- Thea Hilhorst thilhorst@worldbank.org
- Steven Jonckheere s.jonckheere@ifad.org
- George Schoneveld g.schoneveld@cgiar.org
- Gao Yu yug@landesa.org
Netherlands

- Gerard Baltissen g.baltissen@kit.nl
- Paul Burgers P.P.M.Burgers@uu.nl
- Fabio de Castro F.deCastro@cedla.nl
- Barbara van Paassen Barbara.van.Paassen@actionaid.org
- Sjoerd Panhuysen s.panhuysen@hivos.nl
- Duncan Pruett duncan.pruett@oxfamnovib.nl
- Jur Schuurman schuurman@agrterra.org
- Niek Thijssen thijssen@agrterra.org
- Sebastiaan Soeters soeterssr@ascleiden.nl

Support

- Femke van Noorloos h.j.vannoorloos@uu.nl
- Michelle Nuijen M.L.Nuijen@uu.nl
- Koen Kusters kusters.koen@gmail.com
- Ruud Bosch ruudbosch@gmail.com

Observers

- Fred den Boef dba@kliksafe.nl
- Sarah Haverkort sarahhaverkort@gmail.com

For more information, please contact the Land Forum secretariat:

- Gemma Betsema g.betsema@uu.nl
- Frits van der Wal frits-vander.wal@minbuza.nl
- Guus van Westen a.c.m.vanwesten@uu.nl
- Annelies Zoomers e.b.zoomers@uu.nl