

# LANDac annual report 2014



**Netherlands Academy for Land Governance  
(LANDac)**

*Utrecht, March 2015*

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## 2014 Highlights

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### ***5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary LANDac summer school***

*2014 marked LANDac's fifth year of activities. And with that, the annual 2-week summer school 'Land Governance for Development' also celebrated its 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The course again drew in a large number of 25 participants from 16 countries. This year's programme was more diverse than before, including lectures from academia and practitioners, as well as case studies from around the world.*

### ***New website launched***

*We also launched a new website in 2014 ([www.landgovernance.org](http://www.landgovernance.org)) which is more attractive (clear overview; more images and maps), more interactive with regular news updates, and easier to navigate. The website also contains the possibility for LANDforum members to access Dgroups: an interactive forum facility where documents, photos and other material can be shared.*

### ***Learning agenda land governance and food security developed***

*Together with the Food & Business Knowledge Platform, LANDac launched a new learning agenda around land governance and food security. The linkages between the two topics are very often based on assumptions and not well-researched. LANDac, with support and facilitation from the F&BKP, will focus on the complex and multi-level linkages between land and food. Two activities that have been identified so far are a 6-month scoping study and a country specific learning trajectory.*

### ***LANDforum activities taken up***

*Following the first LANDforum meeting in November 2013, the forum members have been working on follow-up activities in their respective countries in 2014. A selection of the members met again in March 2014 during the Annual World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty in Washington DC, US, where representatives from Mozambique and Uganda presented the progress of their activities. Later in the year both Ethiopia and Indonesia also started short studies related to some of the issues identified during the forum. In 2014 preparations were carried out for the second LANDforum meeting to take place early February 2015.*

### ***International conference on Jatropha***

*In June 2014, LANDac co-organized an International Conference on Jatropha: ‘The global Jatropha Curcas hype: What can we learn from the boom and bust of a miracle crop?’ which gained media attention. The conference brought together a number of on-going and recently finalized research programmes funded by the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO); two of the research programmes, the Agriculture beyond food programme ‘Sliding from greasy land’ (Indonesia) and the CoCooN Jatropha research project (Ethiopia and Ghana) are strongly linked to on-going LANDac activities. The conference attracted over 50 Dutch and international academics, policy makers, practitioners and private sector stakeholders.*

### ***Land Governance Multi-stakeholder Dialogue launched***

*2014 was also marked by a further integration of land governance in international development debates. The launch of the Land Governance Multi-stakeholder Dialogue (LG MSD) initiated by the Netherlands Minister for Development Cooperation, Lilianne Ploumen, took place at the end of the summer. During a kick-off high-level meeting in August in The Hague, a wide group of stakeholders was represented, including academia, NGO’s, policy makers, practitioners, investors, financiers etc. LANDac is very much involved in these processes, through representation in the organizing committee of the LG MSD and by leading two of the case teams that have been formed around the topics of Voluntary Guidelines and Palm oil in Indonesia.*

### ***The global land grab: beyond the hype***

*LANDac Chair Annelies Zoomers and LANDac member Mayke Kaag edited a book ‘The global land grab: beyond the hype’. Several current and previous LANDac PhD work, as well as work dovetailed to LANDac was highlighted in this volume. Minister of Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, Lilianne Ploumen, received a first copy from Annelies and Mayke at a book launch event hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The launch was attended by over 60 people, and included presentations by LANDac PhD’s Femke van Noorloos and Alda Salomão.*

### ***2015 LANDac International Conference***

*In 2014 LANDac organized a number of meetings with the newly formed organizing committee for the 2015 LANDac International Conference. The OC is composed of both LANDac partners and other national and international partners working on land issues. The OC will continue to meet in the coming months in preparations of the conference which will take place from 8 to 10 July 2015.*

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Photo's: Gemma Betsema

## 1. Introduction

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Activities of LANDac include: research and knowledge generation; knowledge sharing and dialogue; advisory services and help desk; learning and training events; and providing a platform for exchange. The focus of these core activities of LANDac link up with broader debates and developments around land governance that are taking place.

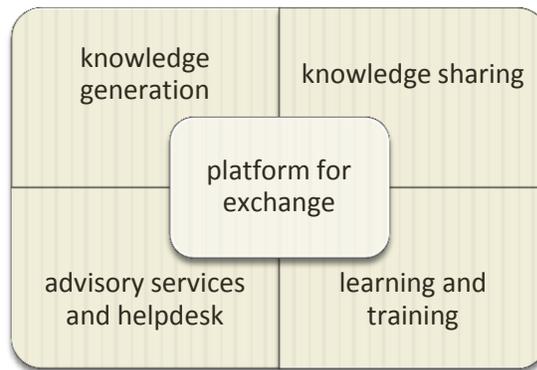
Discussions around land governance, ‘land grabbing’ and its links to equitable and sustainable development have been moving more from a focus on the impacts of large-scale investments towards more attention for ‘how to do it better’, including the viability of ‘alternative’ or ‘inclusive’ business models. This shift has been going on for some time now, and LANDac activities have followed these discussions and contributed in multiple ways. Our short research projects have looked at the role of different actors in ‘how to do it better’, including local governments, farmer’s organizations and the private sector.

These type of discussions are also driving the development of guidelines and principles such as the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (RAI) which have been approved by the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) in October 2014. These principles address all types of investment in agriculture and food systems and in the production, and take into account the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT). The adoption of the CFS-RAI Principles as well as the VGGTs two years before has led to a number of new publications focusing on how to bring these new principles and guidelines into practice. The FAO has engaged in the publication of a number of technical guides around specific topics or issues in the guidelines; the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs has published a ‘Guide to due diligence of agribusiness projects that affect land and property rights’, USAID is working on ‘Responsible land based investment: a practical guide for the private sector’ and Landesa has launched the Responsible Investments in Property and Land project. All efforts to give guidance as how to practically implement the VGGTs and other guidelines.

The Netherlands is actively engaged in these discussions. Following up on discussions in Parliament in September 2013, the Netherlands Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, Lilianne Ploumen, took the initiative to set up a multi-stakeholder platform with the



goal to contribute to the implementation of the VGGTs, and more general contribute to responsible land use. This Land Governance Multi-stakeholder Dialogue (LG MSD) was launched in August 2014 during a ‘high level’ meeting, attended by over 50 universities, NGOs, policy makers and private sector stakeholders who deal with land governance in their work. In addition to the high-level meetings, a number of ‘case teams’ around emerging topics were started up. LANDac has been involved in the LG MSD through its Organizing Committee as well as via different case teams that have been set up. The Utrecht University leads case teams around the practical implementation of the VGGTs (general case team for reference) and around Palm oil in Indonesia. KIT is part of a case team around Alternative tenure and business models.



Another Netherlands-based forum in which discussions around land investments, inclusive development and food security take place is LANDac’s Land Forum. The first forum was organized in 2013, and throughout 2014 the members engaged in different activities in their countries (short research activities, setting up multi-stakeholder forums). Preparations for the second meeting planned in early 2015 continued throughout 2014.

At the international level, lobby and advocacy work around the inclusion of land governance in the new Post-2015 agenda and the new to be formed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have been ongoing. Organizations engaged in these discussions include the UN’s Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) of which LANDac is a member, as well as by the International Land Coalition (ILC) and the Global Donor Working Group on Land, in both of which the Netherlands is an active member.

We now provide an overview of the activities of LANDac in 2014, showing how our activities have linked to international and national discussions. The report highlights in specific the links between research and policy/ practice and how LANDac activities contribute to policy development and improvement.

## 2. Knowledge generation

LANDac contributes to knowledge generation through two main activities: our PhD trajectories and the short-term research projects. In addition, a Postdoc researcher was employed in 2014 who will start his activities early 2015. Below an overview of progress in the area of knowledge generation in 2014 is given.

## 2.1 PhD research

Since 2010 LANDac employed five PhD candidates; in addition a number of PhD students' work is dovetailed with our activities. Femke van Noorloos and George Schoneveld have completed their PhD's in 2012 and 2013 respectively. On-going research is being conducted by Lucia Goldfarb, Alda Salomão, and Maru Shete. In addition, Utrecht University matches funding for two additional sandwich PhD trajectories, to be carried out by Murtah Read and Evans Kirigia.

### **Lucia Goldfarb**

*Research: 'Frontiers of expansion: land acquisition and control for GM soya cultivation in South America and beyond. Implications for equitable and sustainable development'*

In February 2014 Lucia mainly worked in writing and editing for publications and she has taken maternity leave. She has published a chapter on the general trends in soya expansion in the Argentinean Chaco region - in co-authorship with Annelies Zoomers - in the book *The Global Land Grab. Beyond the Hype*, by Zed books. After her leave she has been busy with revisions to the article *'The moving frontiers of genetically modified soy production: Shifts in land control in the Argentinean Chaco'*, in co-authorship with Gemma van der Haar, which will be published in the special issue on Soya in South America of the *Journal of Peasant studies*. She is currently busy writing the last part of her thesis and writing an article to be presented in the CEDLA-ISS conference "The political Economy of the Extractive Imperative in Latin America, in April 2015.

### **Femke van Noorloos**

*Research: 'Whose place in the sun? Residential tourism and its implications for equitable and sustainable development in Guanacaste, Costa Rica'*

Femke successfully defended her dissertation in December 2012. In 2014, a book chapter based on her PhD dissertation: 'Transnational land investment in Costa Rica: tracing residential tourism and its implications for development' was published in the publication *'The global land grab: beyond the hype'* (Kaag & Zoomers, 2014). The book was presented in July 2014 at the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where Femke gave a brief presentation about her findings and participated in the discussion panel that followed the book presentation. Based on her PhD research, she also wrote a chapter 'A women's world or the return of men? The gendered impacts of residential tourism in Costa Rica' for the book *'Global trends in land tenure reform: Gender impacts'* (Archambault & Zoomers, 2015). For further research dissemination of her PhD research in the Netherlands and other countries, Femke's research results have been translated in a LANDac policy brief.

### Alda Salomão

*Research: 'Challenges of participatory land governance in Mozambique: Assessing community spaces, voices, powers and benefits in decisions on large-scale land-based investments'*

In 2014, Alda Salomão completed her fieldwork, divided in two periods, from February to April and from August to December. From May to July, Alda worked at the Utrecht University in the Netherlands where she worked on texts for her thesis. In parallel, she contributed to and attended the following events: a conference on 'Agricultural Investments, Gender and Land in Africa' organized by PLAAS in South Africa; the annual World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty in Washington DC, a workshop on the impact of mining on women organized by ActionAid the Netherlands in The Hague, the book launch of '*The Global Land Grab: Beyond the Hype*' (Kaag & Zoomers, 2014) in The Hague and a conference on 'Resettlement and Livelihoods' in the Kruger Park, South Africa. In addition, Alda contributed as a keynote speaker and panellist at the LANDac Jatropha Conference in Utrecht, and attended the 'VI Session of the National Consultation Forum on Land' in Maputo, Mozambique.



### George Schoneveld

*Research: '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 based on fieldwork in Ethiopia, Ghana, Zambia, Cameroon and Nigeria, part of which carried out when based at the international research institute CIFOR. The results of this research have also been published in several articles in academic journals. January 2014 George gave a lunch lecture about his research at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (attended by over 30 policy makers). As part of the LANDac policy brief series, George wrote a policy brief with recommendations for policy makers and practitioners based on his research findings. Building on his LANDac research he currently coordinates a research programme on '*Large-scale investments in food, fibre and energy: Sustainable options that work for forests and the poor*' and closely collaborates with LANDac and UU-IDS in this.

### **Maru Shete**

*Research: 'The impact of large-scale land acquisition on equitable and sustainable development in Ethiopia'*

Maru is making good progress and has produced three important output products in 2014. Together with Marcel Rutten (ASC) he wrote an article on 'The impact of large-scale farming on local communities' food security and income levels: Empirical evidence from Oromia Region, Ethiopia', accepted for publication in the Journal of Land Use Policy. Also together with Marcel Rutten he wrote a chapter 'Large-scale land acquisition in Ethiopia: Implications for agricultural transformation and livelihood security' in '*Africa's Land Rush: implications for rural livelihoods and agrarian changes*' (Hall, Scoones & Tskikata, eds, 2015). In the book '*Digging deeper: inside Africa's agricultural, food and nutrition dynamics*' (Akinyoade, Klaver, Soeters & Foeken, eds, 2014), Maru contributed together with Marcel Rutten (ASC) a chapter titled 'Biofuel production in Ethiopia: status, challenges and contributions'.

Maru updated the LANDac partners about the progress of his PhD research during a LANDac meeting on 29 September in Utrecht.

### **Murtah Read**

*Research: Dutch Hydraulic interventions in Mozambique; towards sustainable governance within the water-land nexus.*

In January 2015, Murtah Read will start a new joint UU-IDS-LANDac PhD research. In 2014 Murtah conducted preparatory work including proposal formulation, literature research and fieldwork planning. Mozambique is currently characterized by rapid economic development on the one hand and a high incidence of poverty and extreme climate vulnerability on the other. It has therefore been identified as a priority country for the expansion of the Dutch water sector under the Netherlands newly defined trade and aid agenda. Based on case studies and strategic group analysis, the research will seek to analyze the impacts of Dutch water sector actors within the nexus of land and water governance in Mozambique. The overarching goal is to strengthen the sector's potential for contributing to local sustainable development. Murtah will be working together with LANDac PhD Alda Salomão and the organization to which Alda is affiliated: Centro Terra Viva.

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 the joint supervision of PhD students. PhDs and their supervisors also regularly update the LANDac partners about progress made, for example during regular LANDac partner meetings. PhDs are also asked to provide input for the policy and practitioners side of the LANDac network, for example through the formulation of policy briefs.

## 2.2 Postdoc research

In 2014 LANDac partners attracted a Postdoc researcher, something that had been planned since the start of LANDac. The Postdoc researcher's main tasks include future fund raising activities, developing publications, and support to LANDac activities. Following from this selection process, in

January 2015 Dr. Chris Huggins will start a one-year post-doctoral fellowship at LANDac, based at Utrecht University. Chris has 17 years' experience of research on land tenure, natural resource management, and agricultural reform in Sub-Saharan Africa and has conducted fieldwork in nine African countries. He will be contributing to fundraising efforts, developing publications, and supporting regular LANDac activities such as the LANDforum, the International Conference, and our annual Summer School. Building



on his PhD research on land governance and agricultural reform in Rwanda, Chris is currently conducting research on improving land governance for agricultural intensification through innovative partnership models and ICT platforms in Tanzania. He will also be drafting publications in collaboration with members of LANDac. And is in charge of chairing two sessions at the LANDac International Conference: a panel on land governance in the artisanal and small scale mining sector and a session on a book on climate change-induced population displacement that he co-edited with Scott Leckie. In September 2015, he will co-convene a Panel at the STEPS conference, University of Sussex.

## 2.3 Related PhD and Postdoc research

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.

### International Development Studies (IDS) group (Utrecht University)

- 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. One of the outcomes of this was a joint LANDac and Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs-hosted launch of the World Bank report *'Voice and Agency: Empowering women and girls for shared prosperity'* in September 2014. One of the chapters in the report focused on women's access to land; Caroline contributed to this chapter as an external reviewer.

- Pham Huu Ty (HUAF University of Agriculture and Forestry, Vietnam) finalized his PhD research into land acquisition, hydro-dam construction and displacement in Vietnam. He finalized his manuscript in 2014 in Utrecht and will defend early 2015 in Utrecht, the Netherlands. For the LANDac International Conference in 2015, Ty is organizing a panel around land acquisitions for large-scale infrastructure projects. His colleague Nguyen Quang Phuc (Hue College of Economics, Vietnam) is also at the last stages of his PhD research, looking into impacts of land acquisition and compensation in relation to urban expansion in Vietnam.
- In the context of the *Agriculture Beyond Food (ABF) research programme*, two PhDs, Suseno Budidarsono (CIFOR) and Ari Susanti (Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia) 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 Gadjah Mada University. Erda Rindrasi conducts research on tourism and its relationships with disasters in the country.
- In collaboration with the Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) through former LANDac PhD George Schoneveld, and the Copernicus Institute for Sustainable Development (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: Brazil (Frederico Brandão), Mozambique (Filipe Di Matteo) and Indonesia (Idsert Jelsma). Early 2014 a fourth joint LIFFE-LANDac project was started in Tanzania (Eileen Dyer), where Eileen is studying large-scale investments in agriculture and the challenges that come with that, including those related to land rights, service provision, and infrastructure.
- 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 (ASC)

- For many years, the African Studies Centre has been involved in several research projects on land issues in Africa, including land governance. Research among Masaai 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).
  - ASC researcher Mayke Kaag co-edited the volume '*The Global Land Grab- Beyond the Hype*' (ZED Books 2014) together with Prof. Annelies Zoomers (UU IDS).

#### 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 participated in the *IS Academy Human Security in Fragile States* which was closed in 2014 with a final conference in The Hague. The IS Academy was chaired by the Special Chair Humanitarian Aid and Reconstruction at WUR and focused on better understanding 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 have linked 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 a 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 Froukje Krijtenburg); 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). Both programmes have been involved in the LANDac summer school course. Besides these specific research programmes, we collaborate with other universities within the Netherlands that work on land governance, including Groningen University, ITC Twente University, the International Institute of Social Studies (Erasmus University), and the Eindhoven University of Technology.

## 2.4 Short-term research projects

Since its start in 2010 LANDac has been involved in short-term research projects, carried out by LANDac partners as well as our Southern partner institutes. An overview of concluded short-term research projects is given below.

### Short-term research projects

#### 2010

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
2. East-Congo: emerging regulations on land governance in mining areas in a post-conflict setting
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
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
14. West Africa: Enjeux et mécanismes de concertation et sécurisation foncière : Les zones agro-pastorales et transfrontalières du Burkina, Mali et Niger
15. Vietnam: Large-scale agricultural land recovery for economic development: compensation policy and practice. Case studies of hydropower and urban development projects in Thua Thien Hue province, Vietnam

#### 2012 - 2013

16. Role of farmer organizations: Improving linkages: enhancing transparency and participation in decision- and policy-making on land governance
17. Responsible business: How to make investments in land more responsible and increase profitability?
18. Role of local governance: Governing commercial pressure on land: what is the role of local governments?

***Short-term research in relation to the LANDforum***

In 2014 two additional small grants have been given to teams that participated in the November 2013 LANDforum. During the LANDforum all country teams presented activities that they would like to take up in bringing the agenda of the forum further in their countries. Groups from Ethiopia and Indonesia received some 'seedling money' to kick-start these activities. The teams co-funded the research in time, and LANDac grants have been used to cover for research costs. In Ethiopia, a short research project was carried out to identify and describe different agricultural business models in the country that use out-growers. The Indonesian team of the LANDforum focused on the assessment of independent smallholding oil-palm cultivation. Both research projects will be presented at the first next LANDforum meeting and the findings will feed into those discussions.

***Short-term research dissemination***

In 2013-2014, an assessment of follow-up activities of LANDac short-term research (dissemination, input for policy and practice) has been started. Dissemination of the research findings from short-term projects includes: published articles and book chapters (for academic publications, contributions to policy debate series and working papers); presentations and conferences (at the international and national level; including at the annual World Bank Conference for Land and Poverty, Dutch and non-Dutch universities, for policy makers at Embassies and at the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Economic Affairs); media outputs in national and international newspapers and opinion magazines; input for development programs and policy-oriented lectures; and the development of new research programs. Outcomes from our PhD and short-term research feed into the LANDac summer school as well as the different teaching programs at individual LANDac partners and beyond.

### 3. Contributions to policy and practice

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The main thrust of the LANDac network is to bridge the gap between academia, policy making and implementation by making existing knowledge accessible, filling the knowledge gaps and updating the policy agenda. Contributions to policy and practice, thus, are a central objective within our activities. We therefore link policy and practice to all activities that we carry out.

Long-term and short-term LANDac research has links to policy making and practitioners. In 2014, two PhD researchers who have finalized their work within the LANDac network (Femke van Noorloos and George Schoneveld) have produced policy briefs, translating their long-term research into practical recommendations for policy makers and others working in practice. George Schoneveld has furthermore given a presentation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, attended by over 40 participants, including policy makers from the Ministries of Economic Affairs and Foreign Affairs, as well as representatives from several civil society organizations. Different other case studies that have been subject of long-term research by LANDac researchers and four of our PhD candidates have been

incorporated in the publication *'The Global Land Grab, beyond the hype'* (Kaag & Zoomers, 2014). This book has been distributed to all relevant Netherlands Embassies and permanent representative offices abroad (over 50 copies have been sent). The book launch was also organized at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs where the Minister for International Trade and Development Cooperation received a first copy of the publication. The launch was attended by over 75 participants, including policy makers from multiple ministries, as well as a broad range of civil society organizations.



In addition to translating knowledge generated under LANDac flag, the network also contributes to linking up other sources to policy making and practitioner level. Examples of this include some of our lunch lectures and presentations – often organized at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Hague for making the events easy to access to especially policy makers. In April we organized a lunch meeting, in collaboration with the Asia and Oceania Department (DAO) around government-led land acquisitions in China and India. Two expert speakers, Yongjun Zhao (Groningen University) and Malovika Pawar (Indian Administrative Service) were invited to give a presentation on the topic – followed by a discussion with the audience. In September we collaborated with the Task force gender rights and women's equality at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to organize the Dutch launch of the World Bank report on Voice and Agency.

LANDac has also contributed to policy making by linking up existing knowledge, expertise and networks. In May this year we organized - in close collaboration with the Food and Business Knowledge Platform - a lunch meeting around land rights in Benin, bringing together experts and practitioners working in Benin. This was also done in close collaboration with the Netherlands Embassy in Benin, who will be starting work on this topic.

Another activity that offers great opportunities for exchange between research, policy making and practitioners is the summer school. Our participants include policy makers, this year from Embassies, development organizations and the private sector. The other way around, speakers and experts contributing to the course curriculum included this year government policy makers and civil society representatives.

Policy input also takes place at the request of partners and outside organizations. Sophie Blok (intern at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) and Gemma Betsema have carried out a 'Result study' into the impacts and outcomes of Dutch support to responsible governance of rural land in developing countries. The study resulted in a report and a info brief that provide an overview and analysis of the support that the Netherlands has provided on land governance. The report formed the basis of a Letter to Parliament that was sent in May 2014. In 2014, Guus van Westen and Gemma Betsema

provided comments on a USAID draft of 'Operational guidelines for large-scale land-based investments' (August 2014). Gemma Betsema contributed to a Food Security consultation organized by the Food and Business Knowledge Platform organized to ensure that the newest topics and debates on food security are included in the food security policy papers which was sent to Dutch Parliament at the end of 2014. LANDac was also asked to contribute to the Food Security Exchange for Dutch Embassies in May 2014 where we organized a panel of experts and contributed to exchange with policy makers in the field.

The LANDac Land Forum offers a platform for direct exchange between academics, policy makers, civil society representatives and private sector from different countries, with specific attention for exchange between countries in the Global South. LANDac engages in facilitating such multi-stakeholder interaction to further stimulate cross-sectoral debate and linking research to policy and practice.

A final forum in which LANDac engages and that contributes to policy is the Land Governance Multi-stakeholder Dialogue (LG-MSD). LANDac is represented in the organizing committee of the dialogue. Through our partners we engage in three of the case teams set up: the Voluntary Guidelines case team, the Oil palm case team and the Alternative business models case team. In the Oil palm case team, for example, researchers, private sector, government and civil society exchange their dilemma's and knowledge on the oil palm sector in an effort to bring the Dutch stakeholders in the sector to a higher level.

## 4. Knowledge sharing and dialogue

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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.

### 4.1 Organization public lunch lectures, seminars, presentations, conferences

LANDac (co-)organized a number of events, lectures, seminars and meetings in 2014:

- *16 January: Lunch lecture George Schoneveld*

Title: 'The governance of large-scale farmland investments in sub-Saharan Africa. A comparative analysis of challenges for sustainability'. Organized by LANDac and the Sustainable Economic Development Department of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The lecture was organized around the defence of PhD research by George Schoneveld. His PhD thesis examines host country governance of large-scale farmland investments: laws and policies, institutional dynamics and local community responses. (*around 50 participants*)

- *25 April: Presentation India/ China*

Title: 'Government land acquisition and resettlement policies in India and China'. Organized by LANDac and the Asia and Oceania Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Presentations were given by Malovika Pawar (Indian Administrative Service) and Yongjun Zhao (Groningen University). Malovika analysed the expected benefits and shortcomings of a new Act in India that had just been passed and that will impact on the acquisition of land for all purposes in the country. Yongjun recently published a book on the topic of land acquisition governance in China and presented outcomes of the research project that was the basis of this work. *(around 20 participants)*

- *7 May: Food security exchange*

As part of the multiple day Food Security Exchange of Dutch Embassies, LANDac organized a session on land titling and investment funding. LANDac partners as well as our broader network, including ITC/Twente University, Kadaster International, CDI Wageningen and Oxfam Novib briefly presented their work in this topic. The session allowed for much interaction and exchange between policy makers at Embassies and the organizations present. *(around 30 participants)*

- *12 May: Meeting on Benin*

Title: 'Dealing strategically with land issues: the case of Benin'. Organized by LANDac, the Food and Business Knowledge Platform and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (DDE). With presentations from Ruud van der Helm (Embassy Cotonou, Benin) about a new programme around land rights in Benin, Marco Lankhorst on a research he recently undertook to analyse the judicial framework in Benin, and Frans Olthof (VNG International) who has years of experience in supporting municipalities in the country in updating the administration of land rights. *(around 25 participants)*

- *19-20 June: International Conference on Jatropha*

Title: 'The global Jatropha Curcas hype: What can we learn from the boom and bust of a miracle crop?'. Organized by LANDac, Utrecht University, Van Vollenhoven Institute, Addis Ababa University, Hivos, BothENDS and the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO). The conference brought together a number of on-going and recently finalized research programmes. Two of the research programmes, the Agriculture beyond food programme 'Sliding from greasy land' (Indonesia) and the CoCooN Jatropha research project (Ethiopia and Ghana) are strongly linked to on-going LANDac activities. The conference attracted over 50 Dutch and international academics, policy makers, practitioners and private sector stakeholders. *(around 50 participants)*

- *3 July: Book presentation global land grab*

Title: 'Book launch: The global land grab – beyond the hype'. Organized by LANDac and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (DDE). Presentations were given by Mayke Kaag and Annelies Zoomers (editors of the book), with a response from the Minister for International Trade

and Development Cooperation, Lilianne Ploumen. This was supplemented by three short country presentations from Mozambique (Alda Salomão), Costa Rica (Femke van Noorloos) and Vietnam (Pham Huu Ty), followed by discussion. (*around 75 participants*)

- *11 September: Launch WB Report Voice and Agency*

Title: 'Report launch of the WB Report Voice & Agency: Empowering women and girls for shared prosperity'. Organized by LANDac and the Task Force gender rights and women's equality of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Presenters were Jeni Klugman (Senior Adviser of the World Bank Group) and Lucia Hanmer (Lead Economist in Gender and Development at the WBG). The launch was complemented by Mirjam Krijnen, Coordinator of Task Force Women's rights and gender equality, speaking on comprehensive policies for women's empowerment and Annelies Zoomers (LANDac) on women's access to land. (*around 40 participants*)

### **LANDac International Conference 2015**

In 2014 we have started with the organization of our international conference which will take place in July 2015: the LANDac International Conference on Land Governance for Equitable and Sustainable Development - 'Joining Forces'. The conference aims to present state-of-the-art knowledge on how land governance may contribute to equitable and sustainable development, as well as setting the agenda for future research and fostering collaborations for new research, policy and practice. An organizing committee (OC) was formed in 2014 and has met several times in preparation of the conference. A number of experts have been approached and will be involved in the organization of sessions at the conference, as well as in attracting important contributions and key note speakers.

## **4.2 LANDac representation and contributions at external events**

LANDac attendance of meetings/ seminars linked to land governance:

- *24 January: ISS Colloquium Food sovereignty: A critical dialogue (Gemma Betsema)*
- *1 February: Discussion Land grabbing and human rights in Paradiso, Amsterdam. The debate was organized by Oxfam Novib and ASN Bank and was part of the Human Rights Weekend. (Frits van der Wal, discussant)*
- *24-27 March: Annual World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty in Washington DC 'Integrating Land Governance into the Post-2015 Agenda – Harnessing Synergies for Implementation and Monitoring Impact' (Frits van der Wal, Gemma Betsema)*
- *13 March: Leerbijeenkomst Banken en Transparantie (knowledge exchange on banks and transparency) (Guus van Westen)*
- *24 April: Workshop on Inclusive Business Models (Gemma Betsema)*
- *13 May: ActionAid 'Gender & Extractives' Expert Meeting (Alda Salomão)*

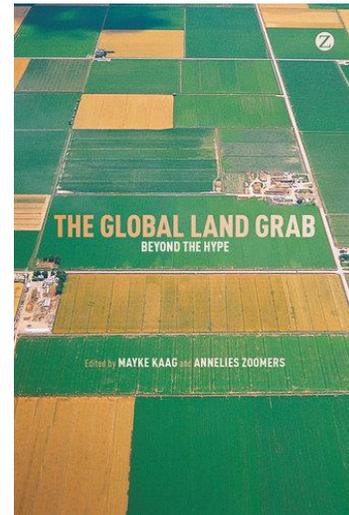
- 25-26 June: GLTN interim workshop Land tools for food security (Gemma van der Haar, Frits van der Wal, Gemma Betsema)
- 3 September: Visit delegation from National Directorate of Lands and Forests, Mozambique, Kadaster International (Gemma Betsema)
- 11 September: 'Facing Fragilities: People, aid and institutions in socio-economic recovery – IS Academy Final Conference' (Gemma Betsema)
- 12 September: Agri-ProFocus Expert meeting food security (Gemma Betsema)
- 16-17 October: 'Africa Works! 2014 – Creating new partnerships' (Annelies Zoomers, Guus van Westen, Gemma Betsema)
- 22 October: debate organized by Friends of the Earth/ Milieudefensie at De Balie 'How do we stop land grabbing' (Annelies Zoomers, panellist)
- 13 November: Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, a conversation with Bill Gates (Annelies Zoomers)
- 28 November: Visit delegation from Benin at VNG International (Gerard Baltissen, Gemma Betsema)
- 8-9-10 December: Expert Group Meeting GLTN on a research programme for master students (Gemma Betsema)

### 4.3 Publications

In 2014, the edited volume 'The Global Land Grab – beyond the hype' (Mayke Kaag & Annelies Zoomers, 2014) was published. Mayke and Annelies have written an introduction and conclusion for the publication. LANDac (former) PhD's Lucia Goldfarb, Femke van Noorloos, George Schoneveld and Maru Shete, contributed chapters based on their PhD research. LANDac (affiliated) researchers Guus van Westen, Ari Susanti, Suseno Budidarsono, Pham Huu Ty and Nguyen Quang Phuc also contributed. The publication furthermore builds on research that has been carried out in the context of LANDac short-term research projects (Cambodia, Vietnam).

- Introduction: the global land grab hype – and why is it important to move beyond (Mayke Kaag & Annelies Zoomers)
- Modernizing the periphery: citizenship and Ethiopia's new agricultural investment policies (George Schoneveld and Maru Shete)
- The rapid expansion of genetically modified soy production into the Chaco region of Argentina (Lucia Goldfarb and Annelies Zoomers)

- Transnational land investments in Costa Rica: tracing residential tourism and its implications for development (Femke van Noorloos)
- Vietnam in the debate on land grabbing: conversion of agricultural land for urban expansion and hydropower development (Pham Huu Ty, Nhuyen Quang Phuc & Guus van Westen)
- 'Land grabbing' in Cambodia: land rights in a post-conflict setting (Michelle McLinden Nuijen, Men Prachvuthy & Guus van Westen)
- Conclusion: beyond the global land grab hype – ways forward in research and action (Annelies Zoomers and Mayke Kaag)



In 2014, LANDac has published its first two policy briefs, based on the first two PhD's that have successfully finalized their work within the network.

1. Noorloos, H.J. van (2014) 'Tourism turning real estate. How to deal with residential tourism investment in the global South?', in: LANDac Policy Brief Series, Policy Brief 01
2. Schoneveld, G.C. (2014) 'Governing large-scale farmland investments in sub-Saharan Africa. Challenges and ways forward', in: LANDac Policy Brief Series, Policy Brief 02

Based on short-term research on 'Responsible land-based investments', Guus van Westen and Gemma Betsema drafted a concept note titled 'Responsible investments in land' (2014). The concept note will be distributed during the next LANDforum as an input for discussion, as well as being published on the LANDac website.

Sophie Blok and Gemma Betsema drafted an information brief with an overview and analysis of Dutch support to responsible governance of rural land in developing countries. The brief will be published on the website of LANDac.

Annelies Zoomers and Caroline Archambault have worked on transforming selected papers from the LANDac Gender and Land Conference held in January 2013, into a book publication. The book will be published by Routledge under the Routledge Studies in Gender and Development with the title: 'Global Trends in Land Tenure Reform: Gender Impacts' (date of publishing: February 2015).

- 'Introduction: the pressing need to secure women's property rights under unprecedented land pressure and tenure reform' (Caroline Archambault & Annelies Zoomers)
- 'A women's world or the return of men? The gendered impacts of residential tourism in Costa Rica' (Femke van Noorloos)

- 'Gendered perspectives on rangeland privatization among the Maasai of Southern Kenya' (Caroline Archambault)

**Other outputs from LANDac PhD research includes:**

Goldfarb, L. and G. van der Haar (forthcoming) 'The moving frontiers of genetically modified soy production: Shifts in land control in the Argentinean Chaco', in: *Journal of Peasant Studies*

Monteiro, J., A. Salomão and J. Quan (2014) 'Improving land administration in Mozambique through participatory community land delimitation', paper presented at the WB Land & Poverty Conference

Shete, M. and M. Rutten (forthcoming) 'The impact of large-scale farming on local communities' food security and income levels: Empirical evidence from Oromia Region, Ethiopia', accepted for publication in the *Journal of Land Use Policy*

Shete, M. and M. Rutten (forthcoming) 'Large-scale land acquisition in Ethiopia: Implications for agricultural transformation and livelihood security' in *Africa's Land Rush: implications for rural livelihoods and agrarian change* (Hall, Scoones & Tskikata, eds, 2015)

Shete, M. and M. Rutten (2014) 'Biofuel production in Ethiopia: status, challenges and contributions', in: *Digging deeper: inside Africa's agricultural, food and nutrition dynamics* (Akinyoade, Klaver, Soeters & Foeken, eds, 2014)

## 5. Advisory services and helpdesk function

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In 2014 the number of information requests has increased again, there are especially many requests regarding opportunities for education and research in land governance topics in the Netherlands. Information seekers are interested in possibilities for continuing their education at one of the Dutch universities of research institutes. This includes programmes at MSc level as well as PhD level. LANDac replies to such requests by sharing an overview of all Dutch institutes working on land-related issues, highlighting some of the research programmes that those institutes lead, topics on which their programme focuses, and direct contact details of the different universities.

In addition, we are regularly invited to contribute to expert meetings, including for a delegation from Mozambique at Kadaster International (Gemma Betsema) and for a delegation from Benin at VNG International (Gerard Baltissen and Gemma Betsema). Femke van Noorloos and Gemma van der Haar were invited as external examiners of MSc work at other universities. LANDac coordinator Gemma Betsema has been interviewed by MSc students for their thesis projects (including MSc students from Groningen University and Wageningen University) and gave a guest lecture for MSc students International Development Studies at Utrecht University. In addition, LANDac has been consulted several times by civil society organizations that consider working on land issues in the future.

## 5.1 Media contacts

Media contacts of LANDac partners and related research included:

- *'Governing the land rush in Africa', contribution by George Schoneveld in The Broker (20 March 2014)*
- *'The global land grab as modern day corporate colonialism', contribution by Annelies Zoomers and Mayke Kaag in The Conversation (25 April 2014)*
- *'Biodiesel uit Jatropastruik', interview Annelies Zoomers in: Volkskrant (21 June 2014)*
- *'Het sprookje van de supernoot Jatropa', interview Annelies Zoomers in: OneWorld (18 June 2014)*
- *'The global land grab as modern day corporate colonialism', contribution by Annelies Zoomers and Mayke Kaag in: The Broker (24 July)*
- *'Doing business in Africa: do the poor profit? The role of Dutch business in development', quote Gemma Betsema (12 November)*

## 6. Learning and training events

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Our main learning and training activities include the two-week course 'Land Governance for Development' at the Utrecht Summer School and supervision of MSc students doing research on land-related topics.

### 6.1 Summer school

From 7 – 18 July 2014 the fifth LANDac summer school edition took place in Utrecht. This fifth edition included a stronger representation of stakeholders from different types of organizations, including NGOs' lobby and advocacy work and research activities (Oxfam Novib, Hivos, Agriterra) and government (Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Indian Administrative Service).

A number of lectures drafted a general overview of various important themes such as the global land rush, land governance, land administration and land issues in post-conflict situations. The overview was complemented by a mix of case studies that illustrate general issues and trends in specific contexts, such as (trans)national land investments in Indonesia and the Philippines, government-led land acquisition and resettlement policies in India, World Bank policies on land in Brazil, foreigners buying real estate in Costa Rica, and coping with urban pressures on rural land in Vietnam due to urbanization trends. The topics were discussed from a range of perspectives, blending insights from academics with those of development practitioners, farmer's organizations and government policy advisors. Organizations and institutions contributing to the 2014 programme included among others. Utrecht University, Wageningen University, Agriterra, Hivos, ITC University of Twente, University of Amsterdam, Indian Administrative Service, Centre for International Forestry and Research, and the University of Campinas – Brazil. On the first Friday,

a one-day excursion with a livestock expert in agricultural development and land use issues was organized.

The 25 participants to the fifth edition came from Brazil, China, Czech Republic, Ethiopia, Germany, Ghana, Great Britain, India, Indonesia, Italy, Mongolia, Mozambique, the Netherlands, Tanzania, and Turkey. Participants were from diverse backgrounds, including students at MSc and PhD level, practitioners from



NGOs, private institutes, Embassies, government etc. The course was again evaluated positively. On a scale of 1-5 (1 = not satisfied – 5 = satisfied) the course was evaluated on ‘value of the module within participants’ study/ work’ (4.3); ‘the course has increased my interest in this subject matter’ (3.4); ‘satisfaction about the feedback received during the module’ (3.1); ‘overall coordination of the course’ (4.0).

## 6.2 MSc research projects

The following MSc students at the three academic LANDac partners have taken up land governance related subjects for fieldwork:

### 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 at 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’
- Lisanne Heemskerk, ‘How responsible is responsible business? A study on the drivers and constraints of responsible business practices of Dutch enterprises operational in agri-business in Kenya’

- 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. Pesticide 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

- 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 Kanya, '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'
- F. Schöpferle, 'The Economics of Akie Identity: Adaptation and Change among a Hunter-Gatherer People in Tanzania'
- S. de Wit, 'Global warning : an ethnography of the encounter of global and local climate change discourses in the Bamenda grassfields, Cameroon'

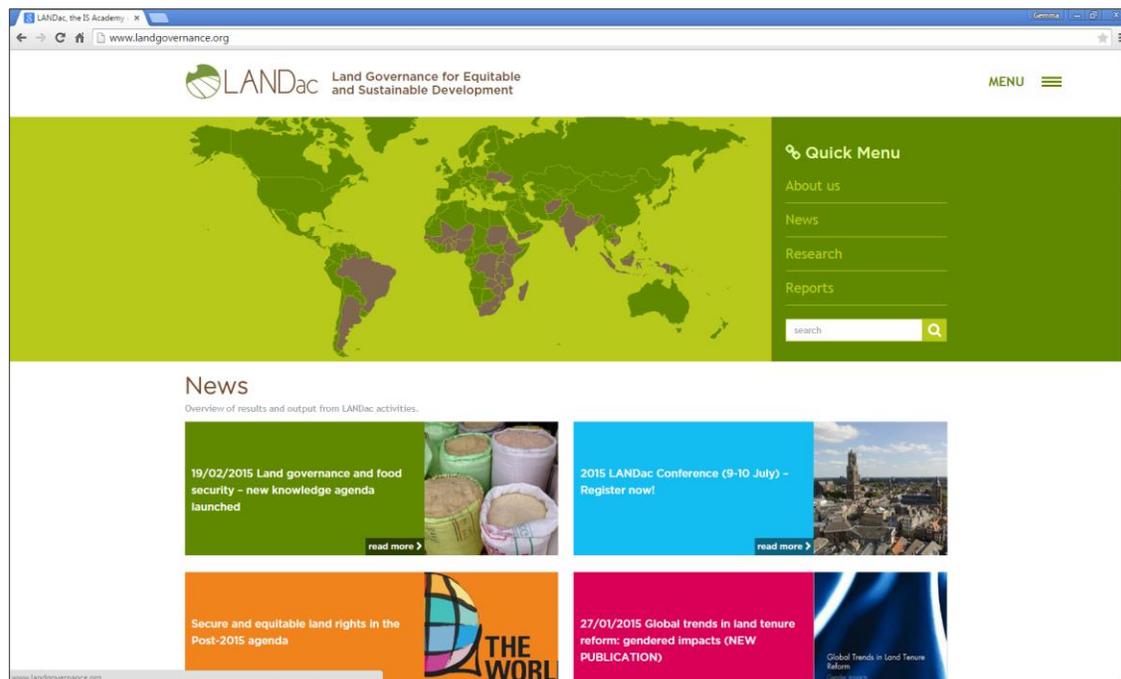
## 7. Communication

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As part of our platform function we have in 2014 increasingly engaged in discussions with other platforms about possible collaborations and new activities. With the GLTN secretariat we have been in contact about how current activities from both organizations can better benefit from each other. With the Food & Business Knowledge Platform, we have throughout 2014 discussed the

development of a new learning agenda around land governance and food security. The main elements of this learning agenda include a scoping study to increase understanding on linkages between land governance and food security, and the development of tailor-made capacity development trajectories in three pilot countries.

2014 marked the launch of a brand new website of LANDac ([www.landgovernance.org](http://www.landgovernance.org)). The new website has greatly improved in terms of functionality, overview, search function and is in general more attractive, including regular news updates, photos and maps. The website also includes a specific section (Dgroups), where selected participants can register and share and access documents and background information. This feature is now used for the LANDforum participants.



The international LANDac network has expanded from 36 organisations at the start in 2010 to over 150 organisations worldwide in our current database. These organisations link us to over 400 persons worldwide (started with 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. 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 2014, the LANDac information flyer was updated again, informing interested stakeholders about our main objectives, ongoing research activities and the summer school. The flyers were widely distributed at the World Bank Land and Poverty conference as well as during events in the Netherlands. We also produced and distributed flyers to announce the LANDac International Conference and the summer school in 2015.

LANDac now has an account on Twitter which we use to announce events, publications and other news items. The LANDac Twitter account links to the website and has 32 followers; the LANDac coordinator also sends out tweets on behalf of LANDac and has 82 followers. We aim to further expand these activities in 2015.

## 8 LANDforum

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The second LANDforum which was originally planned for early November has been rescheduled for early 2015. The main reason for this is the coincidence of the Land Policy Initiative (LPI) Conference in Addis Ababa at the same date. Different LANDforum members had to attend the LPI Conference. Moreover, moving forward the dates by three months also allowed the country teams to make more progress in their respective short research activities. In the course of 2014, meetings were held with several experts for expanding the LANDforum membership. Including Million Belay, Robert Kajobe, Ward Anseeuw and Lorenzo Cotula.

Two small grants have been given in 2014 to teams that participated in the November 2013 LANDforum. During the LANDforum all country teams presented activities that they would like to take up in bringing the agenda of the forum further in their countries. Groups from Ethiopia and Indonesia received 'seedling money' to kick-start these activities. The teams co-fund the research in time, and LANDac grants have been used to cover for research costs. In Ethiopia, a short research project was carried out to identify and describe different agricultural business models that use out-growers. The Indonesian team of the LANDforum focused on the assessment of independent smallholding oil-palm cultivation. Both research projects will be presented at the first next LANDforum meeting and the findings will feed into those discussions. In Uganda first steps have been taken to set up a national land forum for discussing how to make land-based investments more inclusive and sustainable for communities and everyone involved. The Brazilian team has started research into cases of land acquisition and land renting in Brazil to see whether foreign land-based investments in conjuncture with the Brazilian land governance system promotes equitable and sustainable development. In Mozambique, the LANDforum members have started a short research into ongoing community-investor partnerships in the country.

Preparations for the second LANDforum meeting (taking place on 5-6 February 2015) have been ongoing in 2014. The membership of the forum are now complete and several experts from different sectors have been added to make sure the forum features representatives from all groups that play a role in land-based investments.

## 9 Coordination

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LANDac partners met four times in 2014 for partner meetings: in January, May, September and December. In addition to these general coordinating meetings, smaller groups of LANDac partners met regularly to discuss progress of diverse activities of the network, including the preparations for the International Conference in July 2015 and preparations for the LANDforum in February 2015. In April 2014, the Organizing Committee of the LANDac International Conference met for the first time. The OC met for the second time in September 2014. Both LANDac and non-LANDac partners joined the OC and are involved in the organization of sessions at the conference; including representatives from academia and civil society organizations. Universities and institutions that have become a member of the LANDac Conference OC include:

- Royal Tropical Institute (KIT)
- Utrecht University (International Development Studies group)
- Wageningen University (Sociology of Development and Change group)
- African Studies Centre
- VU University
- CIFOR
- Agriterra
- Institute for Social Studies (Erasmus University Rotterdam)
- ITC University of Twente

In addition, an even broader group of institutions are involved through the organization of sessions during the conference, including:

- Utrecht Data School
- The planning department at Utrecht University
- Copernicus Institute for Sustainable Development
- ActionAid
- Global Land Tool Network
- Plant sciences department at WUR
- CCAFS
- FAO
- Hue University of Agriculture and Forestry
- Hivos
- CEDLA.

For developing the knowledge agenda on land governance and food security, LANDac has met several times with the Food and Business knowledge Platform. Frans Verberne and Vanessa Nigten of the Platform briefly joined a regular LANDac meeting to introduce themselves and the platform

and its activities. Following that meeting, LANDac has proposed several activities for future collaboration in the knowledge agenda.

***Some challenges & lessons learned in 2014***

During 2014, one of the LANDac partners, Enclude Solutions has been absent from our partner coordination meetings and at the end of the year informed LANDac that their current activities did not sufficiently focus on land issues to make it worthwhile for them to remain a member of the network. This decision has been communicated to the other partners as well as to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Enclude Solutions has since joined the 'Oil palm case team' of the Land Governance Multi-stakeholder Dialogue through which we still collaborate on the issue of land governance - but with a specific focus on the oil palm value chain. Within these debates the main interest of Enclude Solutions is in the smallholder component of oil palm value chains. At the same time, LANDac has receives requests from external partners to become a member of the network. As the current project duration of LANDac has only one year to go, we have decided not to change the current composition of the group.

The development landscape is changing worldwide and also in the Netherlands. This has important implications for organizations working in development cooperation, with more stress on monitoring and evaluation, but also increasing competition for accessing funds and the need to account hours. When LANDac started this need was felt less than is currently the case and this has put stress on the LANDac policy to demand from partners that they co-fund their LANDac activities in hours. This is something we need to address in future co-funding policies of our activities.

At the same time that partners feel more pressure to account for the hours they invest in LANDac activities, the demand for our services and helpdesk function still increases. More and more people know to find us, ask for advice, invite members to their activities etc. This is a sign that the network is gaining in importance and reputation, but also makes it even more difficult for member to respond to such requests.

## Annex I Work plan 2015 LANDac and LANDforum

### LANDac annual work plan 2015

Item	Output	Results	Budget 2015 (in euros)	Time frame 2015
<b>1 Knowledge generation</b>				
1.1.1	PhD research project Lucia Goldfarb	Finalized	3.800	Q1
1.1.1	PhD research project Maru Shete	Ongoing	7.600	Q1-Q3
1.1.1	PhD research project Alda Salomão	Ongoing	13.000	Q1-Q4
1.1.1	PhD research project Murtah Read	Starting (6 months 0.2 FTE + 6 months 0.6 FTE/ Scale 10/2)	24.000	Q1-Q4
1.2.1	Short-term research project	Local governance	6.000	Q1
<b>2 Education and training</b>				
2.1	Summer school, PhD seminar series	Training of students and professionals on land governance	6.000	Q3
2.2	Tailor made training	Setting up of a LANDac training on land governance in Africa for policy makers and practitioners in collaboration with the F&BKP	15.000	Q1-Q2
2.3	Internships with partner organizations	Training of students	p.m.	Q1-Q4
<b>3 Knowledge management</b>				
3.1	Updating website	Updating the website and other online activities	2.000	Q1-Q4
3.5	Lectures/ presentations	Organization public event around land governance and food security (in collaboration with the F&BKP)	1.000	Q1-Q4
3.5	Lectures/ presentations	Organization public events around the completion of LANDac PhD projects as well as the production of policy briefs	2.000	Q1-Q4
3.5	LANDac conference 2015	International conference LANDac 8-10 July	10.000	Q2-Q3

3.9	Contribution to international initiatives	Linking IS Academy work to international initiatives, including ILC and World Bank	1.000	Q1-Q4
<b>4 Consolidation; internal coordination, monitoring and evaluation</b>				
4.4	Advisory Board	Advisory Board meeting	2.000	Q1-Q2
4.7	Coordination (time)	Coordination IS Academy	39.000	Q1-Q4
	<i>Meeting costs</i>	Four partnership meetings	1.500	Q1-Q4
	<i>Material</i>	Material IS Academy	1.000	Q1-Q4
	<i>Travel costs</i>	Travel costs IS Academy	2.000	Q1-Q4
	<i>Unforeseen</i>		10.000	Q1-Q4
<b>Total budget LANDac 2015</b>			<b>146.900</b>	

### LANDforum annual work plan 2015

Item	Output	Results	Budget 2015 (in euros)	Time frame 2015
<b>5 LANDforum</b>				
5.1	Preparations	Substantive programming and alignment with WB activities (participation in the WB Conference)	1.250	Q1
5.2	Travel grants for stakeholder participation	Knowledge sharing international experts (organization of the second and third LANDforum in February and November 2015)	80.000	Q1-Q4
5.3	Venue and accommodation	Stakeholder meeting (LANDforum in February and November 2015)	40.000	Q1-Q4
5.4	Coordination	Coordination LANDforum	30.000	Q1-Q4
<b>Total budget LANDforum 2015</b>			<b>151.250</b>	

## LANDac annual work plan LANDac and LANDforum

### 1 Knowledge generation

2015 will signal the completion and defense of the LANDac PhD project of Maru Shete as well as the completion of the manuscript of LANDac PhD Lucia Goldfarb. In January 2015, PhD candidate Pham Huu Ty whose work is closely dovetailed with LANDac work, will defend his PhD thesis in Utrecht. LANDac will organize activities linked to these events, including the translation of research findings in policy recommendations as well as the organization of a public presentation and discussion.

In 2014 it was decided that two additional PhD projects would be funded on the basis of 50/50 per cent co-funding with Utrecht University. Both PhD projects are in the process of starting up and will be ongoing in 2015. At the same time, a Post doc researcher has been recruited who will also start working in 2015. With these new research positions, the budget under LANDac knowledge generation will be largely fulfilled at the end of 2015. Some of these projects will be ongoing, but new large research projects will not be started in the next year.

One of the activities of the new Post doc researcher includes writing a new fundable research proposal. At the same time, its activities will be aligned as much as possible with ongoing activities, including the LANDforum. The new PhD projects will focus on delta's in Mozambique and on land use by Dutch flower farms in Kenya.

Some short-term research activities have been started up in 2014 by the LANDforum country teams. Some of the teams have funded these activities themselves or have secured funding from other sources. Teams from Indonesia and Ethiopia have received some seedling money from LANDac/LANDforum for this. Depending on available funding and demand, possibly some new activities will be started up following the next LANDforum in February 2015.

### 2 Education and training

LANDac will organize its annual two-week summer school on Land Governance for Development at Utrecht University in July 2015. This year, the annual summer school will coincide with the International LANDac conference (more information below) – allowing students to benefit from the expertise and discussions at the 2-day conference.

Discussions are ongoing among LANDac partners to establish a 'capacity building programme' on land governance for policy makers and practitioners (from the Netherlands and from developing countries). Together with and with possible support from the Food & Business Knowledge Platform (F&BKP), a scoping of the needs and available knowledge will be conducted in the beginning of 2015. Following this inventory a proposal will be developed for the establishment of a 'capacity building programme' (which can be in the form of an e-learning course, a virtual knowledge platform, an intensive face-to-face course, or a combination of these approaches).

In 2015, we will continue to organize internships for students from the academic LANDac partners with our various partner organizations in the South and in the Netherlands. In addition, LANDac will recruit a part-time intern to assist for the organization of the International LANDac conference.

### 3 Knowledge management

An important event to be organized in 2015 is the LANDac International conference in July for which we aim to draw around 150 land governance experts. The conference will be two full days, the call for papers has been sent out and preparations will be ongoing in the first part of 2015.

The LANDac website will be updated regularly and continues to be an important outlet for sharing our findings and output of activities.

Knowledge sharing on emerging themes will continue through the organization of lunch meetings, lectures and presentations, both for scientific partners, practitioners and policymakers. A specific theme to which extra attention will be paid this year is the linkages between land governance and food security, in collaboration with the F&BKP. A number of lectures will explore the multiple and multi-level linkages between land governance and food security – also allowing for the exchange between different experts in the Netherlands.

With activities such as the International conference, the LANDac website and the organizations of public lectures and debates, LANDac contributes to its objective to provide policy makers, civil society organizations and other practitioners with up-to-date information and tools, as well as support to policy dialogue and contributions to international debates.

#### **4 Consolidation; internal coordination, monitoring and evaluation**

The Advisory Board members will be invited in the first part of 2015 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 2015, material (flyers etc.) and travel. As usual, general coordination of LANDac is budgeted. All costs comply with the approved project budget.

#### **5 LANDforum**

In 2015, 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. In February 2015, we will organize the second LANDforum meeting for which travel grants are provided to selected expert contributors. We plan to organize the third LANDforum meeting at the end of 2015.

#### **Conclusion**

With the appointment of two PhD projects as well as a Post doc researcher, we have budgeted most of the available funds for knowledge generation. Some spending will most probably exceed the current LANDac end date (30/04/2016) – for these separate projects budget neutral extension will be requested closer to the end date.

A central activity in 2015 will be the International LANDac conference in July, where we aim to bring together and synthesis knowledge generated since the start of many 'land grab' studies, as well as setting an agenda for future research and action.

Also activities under the umbrella of the LANDforum will be important in 2015: the first meeting taking place in February 2015. And we aim to organize the third and last meeting at the end of the same year.