ABOUT LANDac

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

LANDac has now entered its second phase (LANDac II was launched on 26 October 2016 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in The Hague and will run until 2021), where partners who share a concern for understanding and addressing new and existing types of land-related conflicts and increasing land inequality will continue to work together to promote equitable and sustainable development in the Global South through robust and inclusive land governance – rules and practices on access to land.

The LANDac network brings together actors, conducts research, and distributes information, focusing on new pressures and competing claims on land and natural resources. LANDac studies the impact of large-scale land deals in agriculture for food production and biofuels, urbanization, tourism; and the role of land laws, reforms, regulations, and voluntary guidelines and principles, in dealing with new pressures. LANDac aims to bring together stakeholders who might not otherwise meet – particularly academic researchers, private sector and civil society representatives, and policy makers and in the field of land governance and development.

This report gives a brief overview of the activities and outputs of the Netherlands Land Academy (LANDac) during the period from 1st January 2017 to 31st December 2017. This report is the first full annual report of the second phase of the LANDac project – LANDac II.

Text and format: Lucy Oates
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The LANDac partnership comprises the following organizations:

- Utrecht University
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- African Studies Centre Leiden
- Royal HaskoningDHV
- KIT
- ITC University of Twente
- VNG International
- land portal
- OXFAM Novib
GOVERNANCE

The LANDac management team comprises:

- Annelies Zoomers – Chair of LANDac
- Guus van Westen – Co-Chair of LANDac
- Griet Steel – Research Coordinator (LANDac secretariat
- Lucy Oates – Coordinator

The secretariat – Griet Steel and Lucy Oates – ensured coordination, communication with partners, and the implementation of activities throughout 2017. The coordination team also regularly updated the LANDac website, which continues to be a hub for announcements and exchange in the Netherlands and further afield; it was critically reviewed by the partners and accordingly updated during 2017. Additions to the website include: a Media page of video resources; a blog – “Voices from the Field”; a new sub-section of the website dedicated entirely to the LANDac Conference; and a section on the Learning Platforms.

The LANDac partners met three times in 2017: 9th February 2017, 11th May 2017 and 5th September 2017. In addition to these partner meetings, specific conference organising committee meetings were held in May and June.
ACTIVITIES:

RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE GENERATION

LANDac contributes to knowledge generation through conducting applied and academic research in collaboration with various stakeholders (including civil society, the government and businesses, among others).
PhD research

Murtah Read: Infrastructure development and urban land governance in Beira, Mozambique.

In 2017 Murtah Read continued his PhD research on infrastructure development in Beira, Mozambique. This included research presentations at the World Bank Land and Poverty Conference in Washington D.C., the LANDac Conference in Utrecht and the European Association of Development Research (EADI) conference in Bergen. During 2017 Murtah was also commissioned to conduct an advisory report by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Netherlands Enterprise Agency on resettlement dynamics in Beira. The report was based on existing research findings and additional data collected during a five week visit to Beira in May and June 2017.

Alda Salmão: Challenges of participatory land governance in Mozambique: Assessing community spaces, voices, powers and benefits in decisions on large-scale land-based investments.

Alda submitted the first draft of her PhD thesis for review in 2016 and has since been revising her manuscript. Alda participated in the LANDac Masterclass at the World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty in Washington D.C. in March 2017 and gave a key note speech at the LANDac Conference in Utrecht.

PhD network

In addition to these ongoing research projects, LANDac recognises that there are a large number of land governance-related PhD studies ongoing in the Netherlands and thus in 2017 took the initiative of establishing a LANDac PhD Network to provide researchers with a structural opportunity for exchange and discussion. During 2017 this network met twice: first at the LANDac Conference (see below), where the PhD Network was launched; and secondly at a network event and workshop on “Ethics in land governance research” (see below). The LANDac PhD Network is co-organised by Utrecht University, the African Studies Centre Leiden, the University of Twente, and Wageningen University.
LANDac research

Learning platforms in Mozambique, Tanzania and Uganda

In collaboration with CIFOR, the Food and Business Knowledge Platform and Shared Value Foundation, we started with the implementation of learning platforms that focus on ways to enhance the developmental impact of large scale land investments in ‘investment hubs’: areas where a lot of investments are taking place.

First, we conduct a bottom-in-depth study of the local context and the impact of the investments (such as teak and sugar plantations) on local people. This research provides an empirical basis for further discussion with all stakeholders involved, including local communities, companies, the (local) government, civil society and academia. By coming together in a 2-day multi-stakeholder meeting, we connect stakeholders and find ways to better align investments with local priorities.

In 2017, learning platforms have taken place in the Kilombero Valley in Tanzania (April 27th-28th), the town of Chimoio in Mozambique (27th-28th July) and Jinja town in Uganda (September 21st-22nd). In 2018, together with the LANDdialogue and BothEnds, we will be initiating a new learning platform in the city of Palma in Northern Mozambique as well.
CITYforum

Given the involvement of several LANDac partners and affiliates with the Human Cities Coalition (a public-private partnership of organizations from business, government, NGOs and academia dedicated to making cities more inclusive and sustainable), and in response to the trend of increasing investments in urbanisation and urban infrastructure, LANDac initiated the CITYforum. Inspired by the bottom-up multistakeholder approach of the learning platforms, the CITYforum is a network of policy makers, practitioners, private sector representatives and researchers from Jakarta, Manila and the Netherlands which provides a platform to share experiences, bridge the gap between sectors, and facilitate both intra- and inter-city learning in relation to land-related issues.

Together with ITC Twente, VNG International, Royal HaskoningDHV, Shared Value Foundation, and Both ENDS, in 2017 LANDac organized one multistakeholder CITYforum meeting in Utrecht, where 40 participants from the Indonesia, the Philippines, and the Netherlands came together to identify key topics for the CITYforum to prioritise, such as ensuring community engagement and promoting integrated solutions. This was followed by a local roundtable discussion in Metro Manila to focus on the land-related urban development issues specific to Manila. Additionally, bottom-up research was conducted in both Jakarta and Manila together with Shared Value Foundation. This line of activities will continue to be developed in the future.
Scaling up Women’s Land Rights in Africa: Scaling up impact in Senegal, Kenya, Malawi, and Mozambique

As a follow-up to the Expert Meeting on Women’s Land Rights co-organised by LANDac, The Gender Resource Facility, CDI, Kadaster and Oxfam Novib in 2016, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs awarded funding to LANDac and African partners to build upon and scale successful practices and experiences by grassroots organizations and movements that work toward strengthened land rights for women. The year-long programme has three main objectives: collecting women’s voices and experiences for advocacy; scaling-up promising movements and initiatives; and raising awareness and building capacity.

The first activity was to identify compelling grassroots actions and then provide both logistical and financial support in upscaling these activities. Five civil society organisations were identified: ENDA Pronat in Senegal, GROOTS and ActionAid in Kenya, ADECRU and Fórum Mulher in Mozambique, and Oxfam in Malawi. Alongside this, and working in close coordination with the local partners, two researchers began conducting applied participatory action research to better understand the and to investigate women’s vulnerabilities in terms of livelihoods and secure access and rights to land. This research is ongoing and is scheduled to conclude in early 2018.
Other research activities
On behalf of LANDac, Jur Schuurman is involved in a research project together with the University of the West Indies which will inform the design of the next phase of GLTN’s research cluster. This project, “Assessment of the VGGTs, SDGs and Habitat III and their Policy Implications for Good Land Governance”, critically evaluates national performance in working toward implementing the SDGs, VGGTs and New Urban Agenda, and is a comparative study of St Lucia and Uganda. LANDac is responsible for conducting secondary research on Uganda.
ACTIVITIES:

LANDac CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

In order to consolidate knowledge on land governance both in the Netherlands and globally, LANDac organizes conferences, seminars and other public knowledge sharing events both at home and abroad.

In 2017, LANDac organized the following events:
LANDac events in the Netherlands

**Women’s Land Rights: From Global Commitments to Local Results**
African Studies Centre Leiden
18th January 2017

This seminar, co-organised by ActionAid and the African Studies Centre Leiden, featured environmental and women’s right expert Catherine Gatundu of ActionAid International speaking of challenges and possible ways forward in women’s land rights. Details of the discussion can be found in the report.

**New Urban Agenda Series: Urban Land Governance**
Pakhuis de Zwijger
26th January 2017

During this public event at a popular cultural centre in Amsterdam, LANDac and affiliates presented their work on land governance in relation to urban development and the imperative to design safe, resilient and inclusive cities. Presenters were Murtah Read, Griet Steel and Femke van Noorloos of Utrecht University, Christien Klauifus from the University of Amsterdam’s Centre for Latin American Research, Joan Rydlewka Stegenga of the City of Amsterdam’s Department of Urban Planning and Sustainability, and Marthe Derksen from Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. More than 80 people attended; the event attracted a diverse audience slightly different to that of “usual” LANDac events, including professionals from various backgrounds.
Launch: Securing Women’s Land Rights in Africa
Academiegebouw, Utrecht
11th May 2017

This event launched LANDac’s gender program (see also above) with a panel discussion featuring Barbara Codispoti of Oxfam Novib, Caroline Archambault of Leiden University, Karin van Boxtel from BothENDS and Michelle Nuijen, the Coordinator of LANDac’ s gender programme. Participants were invited to help define the project’s road map and suggest ways to link up with existing initiatives on the ground.

Land grabbing
University of Amsterdam
18th May 2017

LANDac Coordinator Lucy Oates gave an introduction to student society Kairos on land grabbing, before joining a panel which discussed the effects of globalised consumption on local communities with Alke Gijrath of Oxfam Novib, Karin van Boxtel from Both ENDS and Daphne Dupont-Nivet, a journalist from De Correspondent and De Groene Amsterdammer.

Roundtable on Migration, land and contested claims of citizenship at the Transmobilities Development Conference – Friction in a Mobile World
Radboud University Nijmegen
8th June 2017

Annelies Zoomers (chair of LANDac), Griet Steel (Research Coordinator at LANDac) and Mayke Kaag (Africa Studies Centre) initiated a roundtable discussion on ”Migration, Land and Contested Claims of Citizenship” at the bi-annual Transmobilities - Development Conference held at Radboud University Nijmegen.
Leave no one Behind: Setting the Land Agenda to 2030
Utrecht
29th – 30th June 2017

The LANDac Annual International Conference 2017 took the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as its starting point. With over 250 participants from more than 25 countries, it addressed a variety of themes as diverse as the SDGs themselves. 30 different parallel sessions covered themes such as urban and per-urban land, infrastructural development, migration and mobility, food security, land conflict, and inclusive business. Sessions were also dedicated to technical innovation, monitoring and measurement, and partnerships for achieving the SDGs.

Participants were from universities, knowledge institutions, government, and NGOs, while some representatives of the private sector also attended. In the debates, a couple of recurrent topics came up, such as: the importance of including communities – including women – in decision making, urban land grab, the central role of the state, the role of civil society, the risks of formalization of land, the importance of data, and the dangers of turning land into a financial asset. The need for multi-stakeholder dialogues and knowledge accumulation – LANDac being a prime example – was seen as a possible solution to share experiences and ideas on how to move forward.

Details of the full conference proceedings are available in the conference report.
Land conflict in the context of climate change: What’s happening to our commons?
International Association for the Study of the Commons conference
11th July 2017

LANDac together with Utrecht University and NWO’s research programme "Towards more inclusive, cooperative and participative climate change interventions in Kenya, Ghana and Burkina Faso" organized a panel to better understand the impacts of climate change-related investments, exploring how to prevent and resolve conflicts over common-pool resources which arise from or are exacerbated by climate adaptation strategies.

CITYforum
Utrecht
18th – 19th September 2017

A group of 45 scholars, practitioners, and policy makers based in Indonesia, the Philippines and the Netherlands came together for one and a half days to better understand local realities in the cities of Jakarta and Manila. Through various participatory exercises, the group set the agenda for the CITYforum and agreed that the issue of how to ensure local communities will be actively engaged in decision-making about their own cities should be highlighted throughout. See also the event report.

Ethics in land governance research
Utrecht
6th October 2017

25 PhD students from different universities in the Netherlands (Amsterdam, Erasmus Rotterdam, Leiden, Twente, Utrecht and Wageningen) participated to share experiences on methodological challenges in conducting empirical research on land governance and learn from other researchers at the beginning of their academic career how to manoeuvre in the complex and sensitive research field of land governance. A keynote speech was given by Dr. Margot Leegwater of the African Studies Centre Leiden and Catholique University of Louvain la Neuve, Belgium.
**Guest lecture**
10th October 2017
Utrecht University

Greet Steel was participated in a panel dialogue with Jan Van Den Berg (director of the movie) in the framework of the screening of the movie “Silent Land” in the framework of the course Sustainability and Social Contestation in the Master of Cultural Anthropology – Sustainable Citizenship at Utrecht University.

**Where gender meets landscape**
Oxfam Novib, the Hague
20th November 2017

In this knowledge session, 40 participants discussed how landscape functions could benefit from gender equality and vice versa, drawing on practical examples such as the LANDac gender programme and extracting lessons learned and key points for consideration in implementing a landscape approach. LANDac co-organised this event with CDI Wageningen, Oxfam Novib, Solidaridad and Beagle Sustainable Solutions.

**Adapting to climate change: Community-based adaptation in multistakeholder landscapes**
Utrecht
7th December 2017

This seminar was organised in collaboration with Utrecht University and NWO's research programme "Towards more inclusive, cooperative and participative climate change interventions in Kenya, Ghana and Burkina Faso". Through key note speeches by Arun Agrawal and Jun Borras, five different parallel sessions (organised by Action Aid, CARE International, University of Twente, NWO and Utrecht University, and a book launch participants learned about, discussed and problematized bottom-up, participatory, community-based approaches to adapting to climate change. A special side event focusing on serious gaming and managing climate change in deltas was organized by Utrecht University and CGIAR’s “Future Scenarios” programme. 70 participants from the Netherlands and further afield attended – further follow up will be given at the LANDac Annual International Conference 2018, where this topic will be given some prominence in the agenda. The report is available online.
LANDac events abroad

LANDac staff also organized events and made contributions to conferences abroad, and/or represented LANDac at major international events.

**Masterclass: Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue in Land Governance**
World Bank Land and Poverty Conference, Washington D.C., USA
24th March 2017

Gemma Betsema and LANDac Coordinator Lucy Oates organized an interactive discussion session on using multistakeholder dialogue in addressing land governance issues, with a particular focus on the preliminary design of the learning platforms. Approximately 25 participants joined this session. LANDac PhD researcher Murtah Read also presented his research “Displacement politics and post-aid urban development: Resettlements, donors and infrastructure development in Beira city, Mozambique” at the conference.

**Rural transformation, jobs creation and migration: An inclusive approach**
European Union, Brussels, Belgium
10th – 12th April 2017

LANDac Chair Annelies Zoomers and Research Coordinator Griet Steel presented LANDac and land governance issues from a rural transformation perspective at this “Hot Topics” seminar organized by the Directorate General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO) Unit C1 (Rural Development, Food Security and Nutrition) of the European Union.
Securing Women’s Land Rights in the SDGs Monitoring Framework: Towards a More Harmonized and Coordinated Global Approach
Side event to the HLPF, New York City, USA
9th July 2017

As part of the gender program, program coordinator Michelle Nuijen joined over 40 gender and land rights experts for this Expert Group Meeting (EGM). Organized by the Global Land Indicators Initiative (GLII), Huairou Commission, Landesa, Oxfam, and UN Women, the EGM took place as a side event of the United Nations High Level Political Forum (HLPF) held from 10th – 19th July 2017.

Panel: Land Governance and Urbanisation – Towards an Inclusive Approach
Globalisation at the Crossroads EADI Conference, Bergen, Norway
21st – 23rd August 2017

LANDac organized a policy oriented panel on urban land governance at the EADI conference. Papers were presented by Ore Fika (Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies, Erasmus University Rotterdam), Murtah Read (The Netherlands Land Academy, Utrecht University, the Netherlands) and Manja Hoppe Andreasen (University of Copenhagen, Department of Geosciences and Natural Resource Management). Griet Steel was the organizer and Cecilia Tacoli (International Institute for Environment and Development, UK) acted as discussant.

Strengthening land tenure security for urban poverty reduction
UN Habitat/Habitat for Humanity Learning Exchange, Manila, the Philippines
7th – 8th November 2017

LANDac Coordinator Lucy Oates presented LANDac (and in particular the CITYforum work) to civil society representative from the Asia Pacific region. Lucy also acted as discussant for a session at the event.
Roundtable on inclusive urban development in Metro Manila
Manila, the Philippines
9th November 2017

LANDac coordinator Lucy Oates together with Shared Value Foundation organized a multistakeholder local roundtable discussion about the land-related urban development issues specific to Manila, and about the plethora of "plans" which are currently being designed for the city (such as the Manila Bay Sustainable Development Master Plan). During this discussion, the 25 participants were asked to identify and define priority issues. The outputs of this roundtable will be used as input for the next CITYforum meeting in 2018.

The report is available online.

Land and inclusive urbanization in African Cities: Reflections on the New Urban Agenda
Khartoum, Sudan
22nd November

LANDac research coordinator Griet Steel and Gordon McGranahan of Institute for Development Studies Sussex gave a public lecture at the society of Engineering in Khartoum.
ACTIVITIES:

TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING
"Land Governance for Development" - LANDac and Utrecht University Summer School

From 3rd to 14th July 2017, LANDac organized the 8th annual two week summer course “Land Governance for Development” at Utrecht University. 30 participants from Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe (including delegations from Habitat for Humanity International and the national government of Sudan) joined lectures and working groups and gave presentations on theory and practice related to land governance. The LANDac partners organized guest lectures and Royal HaskoningDHV led a one day excursion to a social housing project in Uithoorn. Students also visited Utrecht Municipality to discuss land issues in relation to urban expansion and development in the Netherlands, and attended the International Association for the Study of the Commons conference held in Utrecht concurrently.

Land governance - Policy and Practice

LANDac also co-organized and led a four-day training in Sudan on “Land governance: policy and practice” which took place in Khartoum rom 25th – 28th of November in cooperation with Istidama (a Dubai-based Corporate Social Responsibility and sustainability consultancy).

In addition to this, LANDac partners give guest lectures at institutes such as the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO) and supervise Master’s students who are actively working on these issues.
ACTIVITIES:
LANDdialogue AND POLICY INFLUENCING
The LANDdialogue

As part of the second phase of LANDac (since 1st July 2016), the LANDac secretariat now also hosts the secretariat of the LANDdialogue, the Dutch Land Governance Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue, which aims to stimulate ongoing dialogue on land issues between various stakeholders in the Netherlands and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In February 2017, the LANDdialogue organised the third High Level LANDdialogue, where representatives from Dutch government, NGOs, academia and private sector joined the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation to discuss key successes from the past year and priorities in Dutch policy related to land governance. Seven follow-up trajectories were identified: involve the infrastructure sector more closely in the LANDdialogue; involve private companies in the LANDdialogue; strengthen links between international parties and the LANDdialogue; study issues of land governance in existing/ongoing cases (at early stages in projects); integrate gender into all parts of the LANDdialogue; provide tailor-made trainings and expert meetings; and strengthen land governance within ICSR agreements.

Policy influencing

LANDac itself also serves as a tool for influencing current practices in an evidence-based manner through its ongoing partnership and engagement with governments, businesses and civil society. The research activities – which will all result in the production of policy briefs – and knowledge sharing events described in this report provide examples of activities designed to influence the policy environment.
ACTIVITIES:

INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION
Website

The primary outlet for sharing information about LANDac activities is the LANDac website (www.landgovernance.org), which is regularly updated by the Coordinator and continues to be a hub for news, announcements, events and sharing publications in the Netherlands and further afield. In 2017, the LANDac website was updated to include:

**Voices from the field**

The blog consists of posts written by our partners and their affiliates as well as guest writers such as students who will share concrete examples of research and activities undertaken during fieldwork.

**Three new prominent links on the homepage**

- LANDac Conference 2017 (now 2018), which links to a sub-section of the website detailing all conference-related activities and publications, sharing important practical information such as registration procedure, suggested accommodation and directions to the venue, and with information about past conferences
- LANDac Summer School
- LANDdialogue – the Land Governance Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue – a page to introduce the LANDdialogue and share news and minutes from the Organising Committee of this group
Learning platforms
This section on the Learning Platforms gives information about methodology and an overview of the project (about which contributions have also been made on the blog pages).

Events archive
The events archive means that information about events that took place in the past can now still be accessed.

Website
LANDac has also developed a set of online video resources – Media – related to land governance. These materials can be used for training – for example in the LANDac Summer School and Conference, as they were this year, and also in lectures and tutorials – as well as for public dissemination.

Social media
Besides the website, LANDac maintains an account on Twitter which is used to announce events, publications and other news items. The LANDac Twitter account links to the website and has increased from 32 followers in 2014 to 91 followers in 2015, 320 followers in 2016, and 429 followers at the time of writing. In particular, LANDac together with partner Land Portal, among others, mounted a social media campaign to promote the LANDac Conference and to share details during the event, which had its own “hashtag”: #LANDac2017. There were 125 tweets with this hashtag in total, with 44% of the tweets being retweeted. Using Twitter Analytics it was calculated that the total reach of these posts was to 39,378 followers with the total impressions being 146,308.
The following is a list of all non-academic publications produced by LANDac and partners in 2017. LANDac partners also produced a wide variety of academic publications on land-related topics which are not listed here.
Policy-oriented publications


**Vice Versa Land Rights Special**

In early 2017, Vice Versa with support from LANDac published a special issue on land rights. The magazine contains stories and cases of land disputes from all over the world. The articles are listed below.

• The country that once belonged to everyone has now become private property: Mongolia’s need to reinvent itself - Marc Broere

• Indonesia’s forests are slowly being cleared: An archipelago under the spell of palm fruit - Manon Stravens

• Daylight robbery of the polders: The Dutch have a nice word for it – “expropriation”- Tony van der Meulen

• Mozambique is subject to the wiles of big business: Deep in the realm of eucalyptus and sugar cane - Selma Zijlstra
• Ugandan odyssey: A return to two plantations, five years later - Ilse Zeemeijer
• Aid overshadowed by trade: Notes on a hidden agednda - Joris Tielen
• No warm welcome for Sinjar’s returning IDPs: The drama of Iraq’s decimated cadastre - Eva Huson
• Land disputes threaten peace in Colombia: The need to give priority to the displaced - Ellen Mangnus
• Dutch businesses are reshaping the city of Beira: But is anyone looking out for Mozambique’s poorest? - Selma Zijlstra
• You can’t just shove people aside: An essay on the “right to remain”- Anelies Zoomers

Video materials

In addition to the above publications, further output was produced in the form of recorded interviews and lectures by LANDac associates. These videos are available on the Media webpage:

• Land governance and social movements – Oane Visser
• The commons: introduction to the IAD framework – Marco Janssen
• Sustainability of product AND of place: the landscape approach – Bram van Helvoirt and Katie Minderhoud
• How to improve women’s land rights? – A video from the Apeldoorn Expert Meeting on Women’s Land Rights
• The pastoral commons in Kenya: gender and institutional innovation – Caroline Archambault
• The social function of urban property: São Paulo, Brazil – Roberto Rocco
• Residential tourism and land in Costa Rica – Femke van Noorloos
• French beans in Kenya: inclusive business? – Ellen Mangnus and James Wangu
• To drown or not to drown? Climate change and property rights – Fennie van Straalen
CONCLUSIONS

Developing a better understanding of land governance and addressing the associated problems remains relevant in the Netherlands and worldwide – particularly in light of the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda – and so LANDac’s function becomes increasingly important.

2017 saw the formation of a new Dutch government and accordingly a new Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, Sigrid Kaag. At the end of 2017, LANDac wrote and coordinated the signing of a letter on behalf of various Dutch actors (including major financial institutions, engineering firms, NGOs and academic institutions) to the new Minister imploring her to keep the issue of land governance prominently on the policy agenda. At the time of writing, we await Minster Kaag’s response.

We at LANDac look forward to continuing to serve as a hub for generating and sharing knowledge, conducting applied and academic research that is in line with demands and knowledge gaps, and bringing together an ever-growing group of stakeholders from many different sectors and from diverse corners of the world.