ANNUAL REPORT 2020
NARRATIVE REPORT BY LANDac - THE NETHERLANDS LAND ACADEMY
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1. Introducing LANDac – The Netherlands Land Academy

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, five-year programs of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) to close the gap between research and policy in the field of sustainable development, poverty alleviation and international cooperation. The interest in land governance was prompted by the global concern with large-scale ‘land grabbing’ by foreign investors in developing countries, compromising food security and displacing local smallholders. Since then, the LANDac partnership, consisting of a range of knowledge institutes, practitioners and governmental actors, has been committed to developing a land governance agenda that centres on producing equitable and sustainable outcomes in the view of growing pressures on land worldwide.

The LANDac partnership provides a platform for knowledge exchange and debate, carries out short-term, applied research on topical issues in land governance and contributes to capacity strengthening in land governance in the Netherlands and beyond. LANDac commits to a multi-stakeholder and participatory approach to ensure that human well-being is at the centre of the land agenda.

In 2016 LANDac entered its second phase that will run until September 2022. In response to developments worldwide, LANDac II has expanded its initial scope beyond the impact of rural land acquisitions for food and biofuel production to include pressing themes related to urban and infrastructure development, women's land rights, conflict-affected settings, and the role of land governance with respect to migration and, more recently, climate change adaptation. As the land governance landscape has become increasingly diverse and professionalised, LANDac has established itself as an important hub for researchers, policy makers and practitioners alike, with the Annual International Conference and Summer School as key references in the domain.

The LANDac II Partnership consists of the following organisations:

Utrecht University, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, African Studies Centre Leiden, Agriterra, ITC University of Twente, Royal Tropical Institute (KIT), Land Portal Foundation, Oxfam Novib, Royal Haskoning DHV, VNG International, Wageningen University and Research. It has a continuous presence in the Global South through partner organisations and its LANDac fellowship programme.
2. LANDac in 2020: Highlights

This report gives an overview of the activities and outputs of LANDac between 1st of January and the 31st of December 2020. Over the years, LANDac has established itself as the leading platform in the Netherlands on land governance issues in the developing world. The LANDac partnership connects Dutch organisations in the Netherlands working on equitable and sustainable development, participates in global debates and, increasingly, extends its partnership to the Global South. 2020 was in many respects an extraordinary year: the global COVID-19 pandemic has had a severe impact on people's lives and livelihoods around the world. LANDac has been and is deeply concerned about the impacts of the pandemic on the land rights of poor people and has insisted on the importance of sustainable and inclusive land governance in times of crisis. At the same time, the pandemic has also restructured our activities for 2020 and has broadened the ways LANDac has worked up until now. The pandemic also compelled us to change the format of some of our flagship activities (e.g. Conference, Summer School) and postpone others envisaged for the year 2020 (e.g. 'Ten Years After' project, see below).

In April 2020, just a few weeks after COVID-19 started to hold the world in a tight grip, LANDac released its agenda for knowledge and action: COVID-19 crisis puts land rights under pressure. In collaboration with others in the land governance community this agenda served to alert the broader development community to the risk that the pandemic might develop into a severe land rights and land governance crisis. LANDac also released an online survey and created an online hub for the land governance community to share their concerns and the information that they have collected on the impact of the pandemic so far. These efforts led to further collaboration with other land governance-centred organisations. Together with the Land Portal, Landesa, New America and the Norwegian Refugee Council, LANDac co-authored a Brief Series on Land, Housing and COVID-19, facilitated an online discussion on the impact of COVID-19 on land governance, and contributed to a webinar series on the same issue.

At the same time, LANDac flagship events continued to take place, though adapted to the new circumstances around the world. The LANDac Annual International Conference and the Annual Summer School took place online. We found that this change of format, developed out of necessity, provided new opportunities and lowered the threshold for people from around the world to join. Both the 2020 online conference ('Online Encounter') and the summer school attracted a larger and more diverse audience than previous years. The 2020 conference took place over the course of five afternoons and was attended by over 250 people, whereas the 2020 Summer School attracted more than 40 participants from 21 different countries. In this way, LANDac continued to play a crucial role in bringing together actors from different backgrounds and strengthening the capacity of early- and mid-career professionals in the land governance and sustainable development domain.

In 2019 LANDac kicked-off its Professional Learning Programme, which continued into 2020. This network of individuals (LANDac fellows) working for different NGOs, universities and businesses across sub-Saharan Africa, shared practices of land governance interventions, land-based investments and their impacts on their respective local communities. When COVID-19 hit the world and flows of people and information was severely restricted, LANDac fellows continued to meet online to exchange and update each other about the new realities in their countries. From the start of the crisis, they have been closely monitoring and exchanging real-time information on the impacts of COVID-19 and the protective measures on land governance and the livelihoods of poor and vulnerable groups.
In autumn 2020 the second batch of LANDac fellows have been selected, extending the network to 22 fellows from 14 different countries. Based on our experiences during the first year of the programme, the focus of this second batch of fellows lies on co-learning and co-production of knowledge. Selected fellows have committed themselves to regular participation in co-learning and exchange meetings and will be able to access funds for (applied) research or capacity strengthening activities through a twice-yearly call for proposals (to be launched early 2021). The programme continues to deepen our understanding of the impacts of investments on the ground and the room to make these more inclusive next to other land governance related questions. It suggests new issues and challenges to be taken up by the LANDac partnership.

Throughout the year, the LANDac secretariat continued to be the main point of reference in the Netherlands for land governance-related questions, answering more than 10 external requests, and functioning as a knowledge hub through the LANDac’s website and newsletter. In this way, LANDac continues to create an enabling environment to exchange information about best practices and innovative solutions, mainstreaming land governance issues across different actors, sectors and institutions.
3. Secretariat and Management

The LANDac secretariat (LANDac Office) has played a central role in 2020, ensuring that LANDac remains a vibrant partnership and knowledge hub by nurturing the connections between LANDac partners, as well within the wider land governance community in the Netherlands and abroad. The secretariat plays an essential role in signalling upcoming issues within the land governance community, bringing relevant actors together to discuss these issues in various formats, including roundtable discussions, seminars and our Annual International Conference. This proved especially important in 2020 when COVID-19 hit the world – the LANDac office has been key to allow us to move swiftly, adapt the plans for 2020 and signal COVID-19 as an important threat to inclusive and sustainable land governance.

The LANDac secretariat coordinates and facilitates the regular meetings of the LANDac partnership, who met in-person in February for half a day, and online in May, July and September 2020 for 2 hours each. In November, the partnership met online for half a day to discuss the Annual Plan for 2021. The LANDac secretariat also supported the Organising Committees formed for the LANDac 10-year anniversary and the LANDac Annual International Conference 2020. Moreover, the secretariat ensures that knowledge generated by LANDac and its partners is widely disseminated, e.g. by regularly updating the LANDac website, newsletter, Twitter and LinkedIn.

The team

LANDac's secretariat is managed by the LANDac board, consisting of two LANDac co-chairs. In 2020 Guus van Westen (Utrecht University) and Gemma van der Haar (Wageningen University) continued as co-chairs of the LANDac partnership. The secretariat itself has been run on a daily basis by the LANDac coordinator and researcher, with the support of a Support Officer between April – August. The coordinator has the responsibility to coordinate all LANDac's activities, liaise with LANDac partners and the wider network, answer external requests from the wider network and maintain LANDac's social media accounts, while the LANDac researcher has focussed on the development and daily management of the Professional Learning Programme, supported by the inputs of Griet Steel (Utrecht University). The support officer has supported the LANDac coordinator with the organisation of the LANDac Annual International Conference 2020 and Annual Summer School.

The LANDac secretariat 2020 comprised of:

- Chantal Wieckardt – Coordinator;
- Romy Santpoort – Researcher;
- Lotte van der Heijden – Support Officer (April – August).

The LANDac secretariat also hosts the LANDdialogue, facilitated by Alke Gijrath.

The secretariat was also pleased to welcome dr Joanny Bélair as postdoctoral researcher, currently looking at how investors’ profiles and level of integration within host countries’ political economy influence their capacity to operationalize their agricultural investment projects. Similarly, Dominique Schmid, visiting PhD candidate focussing on the social effects of greenhouse gas emission reduction projects in the Global South with a special emphasis on agriculture, forestry and other land-use projects (AFOLU), has contributed to the work of the Team. Joanny and Dominique are hosted at the International Development Group at Utrecht University, and are associated with LANDac.
Secretariat communication activities 2020

❖ Secretariat as Dutch contact point for land governance

The secretariat, with the partners, aims to create an enabling environment for the exchange of information about best practices and innovative solutions to key governance challenges and to provide an evidence base for policy. The LANDac secretariat frequently receives requests from the land community in the Netherlands and beyond, ranging from sharing interesting events with the wider land governance community, to assistance in the organisation of events or to find the right expertise on a particular topic. Besides requests to communicate events, LANDac received 12 external requests for assistance in 2020. Requests ranged from creating new or strengthening existing linkages with organisations or newly launched projects within organisations (e.g. with MISEREOR, Cordaid’s Land and justice research), requests for connections (e.g. by the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights for a consultancy project; Movies that Matter; Connective Cities Initiative (GIZ); for a panel and new project in Ghana (Norwegian Council for Africa); for a scoping study Women’s Land Rights ‘Hidden gendered impacts of investments in extractives, agribusiness and hydro’), to giving feedback on an article for Vice Versa, answering questions by one of the Dutch banks who ran into land rights issues, and giving tips for (research) internships to Dutch and foreign students.

❖ LANDac website renewed (continued)

In 2020 the LANDac website (www.landgovernance.org) has been further updated and renewed, a process that has started in 2019. Following an evaluation done by VNGi and a brainstorm with Agriterra, the LANDac website is now structured by: activities, news, events, themes (in progress), publications, blogs, and has a separate section for the LANDdialogue. A clear overview of all LANDac publications (under LANDac I as well as LANDac II) has been added to the website, which helps visitors to more easily navigate through almost a decade of LANDac outputs.

The website now showcases different land governance Themes, where information can be found on the key topics in land governance, LANDac’s previous work and publications on that theme (in chronological order), other organisations’ work and publications, as well as the latest news items regarding those themes. A section on Online Learning has also been added to the website, where visitors can find existing online training materials (either self-paced or with a fixed starting and end date), webinars, online tools, or even entire courses (massive open online courses – MOOCs). Most resources are free of charge, unless otherwise stated. Moreover, an Online Hub Land Governance and the COVID-19 Pandemic has been launched on the website, where we have shared important news on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on land governance. In addition, several new blog series were launched in 2020, including a series of blogs related to the LANDac Online Encounter 2020, blogs for the COVID-19 hub and a blog series by one of the LANDac fellows (The Golden Conflict in Sudan). The LANDac website does not seek to comprehensively cover land governance issues, but rather to complement resources on major websites such as of the Land Portal, a LANDac partner, by mutual linking.

❖ LANDac newsletter

Subscriptions to the LANDac newsletter continue to increase, with a net increase of 57 new subscriptions in 2020. There continues to be a steady growth in the number of requests by the land governance community to include particular items in the newsletter. Based on the information provided by the newsletter software, the newsletter is most frequently opened and read by a young(er) audience, such as early career researchers and professionals, increasingly from the Global South. The links in the section
'Opportunities' are most frequently clicked on, and the section has therefore been included as a regular section in the Newsletter.

❖ Social media

LANDac is increasingly visible on Twitter, especially around the time of the Annual International Conference. In 2020 Twitter has again been extensively used during the conference, which has been amplified by the fact that the conference took place entirely online. Participants posted screenshots and take-aways from keynote speakers, their own sessions or the sessions that they have attended at the conference.

The LANDac LinkedIn page is still not extensively used. There are still few followers (193) and there is little interaction on the page. Efforts to make the LANDac LinkedIn page a hub for exchange and a tool to increase LANDac visibility will need to be stepped up in 2021.
4. Knowledge Generation: Research

Land governance is relevant to a wide range of societal issues, including urban growth, migration, climate change, and recovery after crisis. Research is essential to understand these connections and to suggest how policies may serve equitable and sustainable outcomes in the view of growing pressures on land worldwide. LANDac seeks to contribute to the land governance research agenda in a number of ways: by identifying and framing key issues (mostly through the Annual Conference), by developing its own, applied research on topical issues, by joining broader research consortia, and by supporting the research capacity of junior researchers, both academic (students, PhDs) and young professionals in the Global South – as explained in more detail below.

During its 2020 strategy day (in October 2019) the LANDac partnership had decided to give its research agenda a boost by releasing an internal call for proposals for applied research. With this internal call, we aimed to explore new or underrepresented issues in the land governance field, and develop a relevant research agenda that maximizes the potential of the partnership and that can swiftly react to emerging issues within the broader land governance agenda. One research project was selected early 2020: Ten Years After: A reality check on impact assessments of infrastructural projects.

**LANDac research**

- **Ten Years After: A reality check on impact assessments of infrastructural projects**

This research project was selected early 2020 after an internal call for proposals within the LANDac partnership (see introduction above). The project aims to improve the positive contribution of social and environmental impact assessments to responsible investment in infrastructural projects, in particular where these involve displacement. It proposes to conduct research on the gap between real and projected impacts and to reflect, with specialised agencies, on what might be done to close this gap. The proposal included fieldwork by MSc students. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this research has been postponed to 2021.

- **Professional Learning Programme fieldwork activities (fellows 2019-2020)**

In July 2019 a first group of LANDac fellows was selected for the Professional Learning Programme. These fellows visit the Netherlands for a training period in the Netherlands and returned to their respective countries to conduct in-depth case studies on a variety of topics related to large-scale land-based investments across Africa. Fieldwork activities were scheduled for Q1 of 2020. While some finished their field work before the COVID-19 pandemic, others finalized their work in the field after the initial lockdowns during Q3 and Q4 of 2020. The initial results were shared during the 2020 LANDac Online Encounter. In 2021, their results and lessons learned will be collectively published in the form of a series of working papers and, possibly, a small booklet on the impacts of land-based investments on poor and vulnerable communities across sub-Saharan Africa.

- **Professional Learning Network research projects (fellows 2020-2021)**

In September 2020, a new group of fellows was selected to join the learning network. One of the network's agenda is production of knowledge. During the past monthly seminars, the entire group of fellows (a total of 18 professionals) defined priority themes and topics on which the network will focus in the next year. The themes defined include: New and emerging trends of land-based investments; Resettlement and the community perspective on fair compensation; The impact of land-based
investments on women and; the impact of land titling projects on people's tenure security, particularly land that was formally under customary rights. In a group of at least four fellows, research project ideas have been developed around these four themes and will be implemented starting April 2021. The result of these studies will be shared through different platforms – video stories, policy briefs, academic articles, presentation in the 2021 LANDac Conference, among others.

**PhD research**

In 2020 LANDac's PhD student Alda Salomão, whose research carried over from LANDac I into LANDac II, successfully finalized her research and defended her dissertation at Utrecht University. One other PhD research project, which was not funded by LANDac I but closely relates to LANDac topics and which was brought into the LANDac network, was finalized as in 2020 as well; Erlis Saputra finished and successfully defended his PhD research “Land Subsidence as a Sleeping Disaster. Case Studies from Indonesia”.

Under LANDac II, LANDac's role shifted from initiating and funding PhD research, to supporting PhD research through our PhD Network and by tying relevant PhDs into the LANDac network. More information on the PhD Network can be found below (6. Training and Capacity Building). LANDac continues to facilitate the publication of policy briefs when PhD students have completed and defended their thesis, to promote evidence-based policies. Alda Salomão has been approached to publish a policy brief on her research.

**LAND-at-scale knowledge management programme**

In 2019, the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) launched LAND-at-scale, a five-year programme that aims to strengthen essential land governance components for men, women and youth in lower- and middle-income countries, regions and landscapes. LAND-at-scale aims to do so by scaling up successful pilot projects, providing support to innovative interventions and investing in increased knowledge and learning. The programme is executed by the Dutch Enterprise Agency (RVO) and will run until end 2024. Starting in the summer of 2020 the LANDac partnership and ILC have been working closely together to develop a knowledge management proposal for LAND-at-scale.

LANDac and ILC propose to implement a comprehensive knowledge management strategy that combines the collection of evidence, exchange, the strengthening of the knowledge base, co-creation and fostering of mutual feedback among stakeholders, and strengthening the capacity for effective action. Through their platform function and extensive network, LANDac and ILC are in a strong position to identify relevant collaboration partners for LAND-at-scale and to facilitate joint learning, knowledge exchange and multi-stakeholder participation, thus combining the strength of our organisations (LANDac’s strong background as a knowledge hub and its unique position in the Dutch land governance field together with ILC’s strong global alliance) to the benefit of the LAND-at-scale programme.

**Other research**

**Diamonds in the Delta (continued)**

‘Diamonds in the Delta’ is a research programme by Utrecht University, IHE Delft/University of Amsterdam, ITC University of Twente and Deltares, supported by, among others, LANDac. The programme focusses on inclusive and resilient delta interventions in the Global South. These interventions include infrastructure plans, masterplans, and strategic regional delta plans. The programme seeks to strengthen the linkages between the Dutch Delta Approach and the SDGs by focusing on the inclusiveness and climate resilience of delta interventions through systematic and multidisciplinary research. In addition to scientific
knowledge the programme will also contribute to institutional innovations in the practice of delta interventions in the Global South.

The programme started in December 2018 with a seed money grant from Utrecht University’s Water, Climate and Future Deltas hub. The seed grant has been used to draft a research proposal for the Dutch National Research Agenda (NWA). Unfortunately, this proposal was not selected for the final round by NWA. Given the importance of the topic and the consortium’s commitment, the proposal will be adapted and resubmitted to the 2020/2021 round of the NWA-ORC.

**Adjustments in 2020**

In the Annual Plan 2020, LANDac expressed the intention to select 1-2 (applied) research proposals to boost its research agenda. One proposal has been submitted and selected by January 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, MSc fieldwork was no longer feasible, and thus this project has been postponed to early 2021.
5. Knowledge Management & Exchange

As a knowledge broker LANDac aims to identify relevant trends in the global knowledge agenda, facilitate exchange amongst partners about these issues, and share insights with the broader development community concerned with land issues. We do this in a range of venues and settings, initiated by LANDac or at the invitation of others, creating an enabling environment to exchange information, best practices and innovative solutions.

2020 was in many respects a year that turned out differently than previously foreseen. Due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, that affected the Netherlands from March 2020 onwards, many events for knowledge management and exchange had to be adapted or cancelled. However, at the same time the crisis also provided the opportunity for LANDac to further explore and experiment with online meetings and communications. We already started this process in 2019 where, with a view to reaching a wider (global) audience, we increasingly turned to webinars as a means to communicate our findings from (research) programmes and contribute to global debates. Early 2020 we honoured a proposal from the Land Portal to add a digital component to the LANDac Annual International Conference 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic we decided to host the entire conference online, with the indispensable support of the Land Portal.

Knowledge management and exchange activities in 2020

- **LANDac Online Encounter – 30 June-3 July**

LANDac’s Annual International Conference 2020 initially focused on ‘Land Governance Challenges and Climate Change: Handling Pressures, Upholding Rights’, to be held in Utrecht, the Netherlands, on 2-3 July. As the year progressed, it became clear that it would be impossible to host a physical conference. Yet despite the COVID-19 pandemic, LANDac wished to bring the global land governance community together to take stock of research, policy and practice from around the world, as well as to reflect on the current COVID-19 crisis, as alarming observations were coming in about the loss of livelihoods and deepening poverty, government crackdowns on civil society, the suspension of land administration services and irregular land acquisition. For those reasons, we organized an online conference: the ‘LANDac Online Encounter’. The Online Encounter looked at the questions: what are the immediate effects of the pandemic, and how might it change the future work and priorities of the land governance community?

Over the course of 5 days, between 29 June and 3 July, over 250 people from all over the world joined LANDac for the Online Encounter. LANDac hosted a vibrant programme, including two keynote contributions, three webinars, various parallel sessions and opportunities for online networking and exchange. Before, during and after the online programme, participants could join us at an online platform, where you can still find the published blogs, interviews and short videos from colleagues in the LANDac network. The full report of the conference can be found on the website.

- **LANDac events in the Netherlands**

**Opening meeting: Ten Years After applied research project – 9 March**

As kick-off of the Ten Years After applied research project, twelve experts from (semi)government organisations, academia and civil society met early March to discuss and provide input to the research
proposal. Value inputs were provided on the different elements of ESIAs, the project cycles and scales, methodology and interesting case studies.

**Expert meeting Nigeria – 26 March (cancelled)**

At the request of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, whose representatives planned to go on an economic mission to Nigeria in July, LANDac and the LANDdialogue planned to host an expert meeting and discussion with relevant experts and civil servants from different ministries and disciplines, to discuss and reflect on land governance issues in Nigeria. The meeting would specifically focus on access to land and the current tensions between farmers and pastoralists. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting was first postponed and later cancelled, as the need for the meeting had diminished.

**LANDac 10-year anniversary Land Governance & Climate Change: Preparing for the near future – 23 April (cancelled)**

In April 2020, LANDac planned to celebrate its 10-year anniversary by inviting the land governance community for an interactive afternoon at the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign affairs. The interactive afternoon included keynote speeches by Prof dr Jun Borras (International Institute of Social Studies) and Malovika Pawar (Indian Administrative Service & Utrecht University) and a visioning exercise on the future of LANDac. Unfortunately, the meeting was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Discussion land rights implications of COVID-19 – 3-24 June (online)**

As a follow-up to the webinar series on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on land governance, LANDac, together with the Land Portal, Landesa, the Global Protection Cluster HLP AOR and GIZ, the Environmental Peacebuilding Association, New America and the UK’s Department for International Development (DFID), organized the Online Discussion ‘Land Rights Implications of COVID-19’. LANDac facilitated and moderated the discussion between the 19-24 June, with a debate around the statement ‘COVID-19 has upended land administration systems: Communities will suffer as elites take advantage of the governance gap’.

**LAND-at-scale roundtable discussion on specific country project ideas – 3 September (online)**

At the request of RVO and in close collaboration with the Land Portal, LANDac has supported the organization of a roundtable discussion on newly shared country project ideas for LAND-at-scale. Experts from the LANDac network joined RVO for presentations and provided inputs and valuable insight to project ideas in Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Mali, Mozambique, South Sudan and Uganda.

**LANDac lunch meet-up: The conflict in Tigray, Ethiopia, from a land governance perspective – 9 December (online)**

On December 9, LANDac organized a lunch seminar to discuss the ongoing events in northern Ethiopia. Since early November, tensions escalated between the Tigray People’s Liberation Front (the TLPF) and the national government led by prime minister Abiy Ahmed. Together with the LANDac fellows from Ethiopia, LANDac organized a discussion around the situation, reflecting on the (possible) link with land governance. The meeting was attended by around 20 people from different organisations, including Dutch investors in Ethiopia.

- LANDac events abroad
Exchange visit and writeshop Uganda – TBD (cancelled)

In the context of the LANDac internal call for proposals in the area of Capacity Building, LANDac honoured a proposal initiated by Utrecht University and the University of Twente to organise an exchange meeting and writeshop in Uganda for the LANDac fellows. The goal of the visit and writeshop was to deepen the discussion and mutual learning between fellows. Unfortunately, the exchange visit had to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic and travel restrictions. Online meetings for co-learning and exchange have taken place since April 2020.

❖ Events attended as LANDac

Brainstorm with EALAN at ITC – 13 January

Between the 13-15th of January the chairman and secretary of the Eastern African Land Administration Network (EALAN) visited ITC University of Twente and invited LANDac for a brainstorm session on interuniversity collaboration in land governance, and possibilities for collaboration between EALAN and LANDac. Specific opportunities that were identified were: a session ‘Developing Academic Networks’ at the LANDac 2020 conference (cancelled) and participation of EALAN network members in the LANDac Annual Summer School.

Consortium meeting: Diamonds in the Delta – 16 January

On the 16th of January the Diamonds in the Delta research programme organized a consortium meeting, where consortium partners, including LANDac, provided final inputs to the proposal before submitting the final version.

LAND-at-scale roundtable Somalia – 29 January

On the 29th of January, RVO organized a roundtable discussion around their project idea for Somalia. The LANDac coordinator and postdoc were present to provide inputs and feedback to the idea.

Roundtable land registration and access to justice in conflict-affected settings – 10 February

KIT, together with ZOA, Radboud University and Wageningen University organised a roundtable in the context of the Knowledge Platform Security and Rule of Law. The full-day meeting focussed on the interfaces between registration of land rights (LTR), disputes about land and access to justice (A2J) in fragile and conflict-affected contexts. The goal of the meeting was to exchange knowledge and build a partnership of organizations that can work together on these themes.

Pathways to Sustainability conference – 5 March

The LANDac coordinator was present at the Pathways to Sustainability Conference on the 5th of March to further increase LANDac’s visibility within Utrecht University in general and within the different faculties that Pathways to Sustainability brings together.

Workshop Brainstorm minor natural resource governance – 6 April (online)

Wageningen University was in the process of developing a Bachelor minor on the issue of resource conflict, resource governance and environmental justice, including two new courses. Experts from the land governance community were invited to think along in the design of the courses and explore options for future involvement. The LANDac coordinator was present to provide feedback and share relevant contacts and case studies for the development of the programme.
GLTN partner meeting – 1-4 December (online)

Between the 1st and 4th of December the GLTN partner meeting took place online. LANDac is part of the Academic Research and Training Cluster, and participated in the cluster meeting, sharing updates on ongoing work, and electing the cluster leads for 2021.

Various webinars and online sessions/discussions

The COVID-19 pandemic has moved many events online. This has offered LANDac and others the opportunity to more easily join discussions, webinars and other events. Such events included: The Tenure Facility's Learning Exchange, the launch of the Land and Inequality research results by ILC and Oxfam, and a selection of Land Portal webinars.

Adjustments in 2020

Several of our events have been postponed or cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The 10-year anniversary was cancelled, as large meetings were prohibited, and the event built upon a specific momentum in time. Also, the Nigeria Roundtable, which was organised in preparation of a specific economic mission that had also been cancelled, was cancelled. The exchange journey and writeshop in Uganda for the LANDac fellows unfortunately also had to be cancelled. Instead, fellows met on a regular basis via Zoom to exchange experiences, especially the effect of COVID-19 on land markets, land access and food security. Lastly, the LANDac secretariat had also planned to visit the World Bank Land and Poverty Conference in March 2020. Unfortunately, the conference was cancelled last minute.
6. Training and Capacity Building

Since its creation in 2010, LANDac has been committed to training and capacity building. LANDac's Annual Summer School in particular has attracted early and mid-career professionals, both from the ‘Global North' and the ‘Global South', as an opportunity to strengthen their knowledge base and professional network in land governance. In 2019, we launched the Professional Learning Programme (PLP) which combines research and capacity building of young professionals from the Global South, all of them well-embedded in local organisations or companies. The activities of the first batch of the fellows were severely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 – their programme therefore has been adjusted to the new circumstances. A new batch of LANDac fellows also started in September 2020, with an adapted programme (see below).

Training and capacity building activities in 2020

**LANDac Summer School 2020 Online Edition**

Between the 6th – 17th of July, LANDac organized its Annual Summer School in an online format. This online edition had a slightly abbreviated programme compared to the physical summer school yet continued to attract participants from all over the world: in 2020 we drew in 43 participants from 21 countries. As costs to join the summer school were lower (both in terms of the fee, as well as in terms of travel and accommodation costs), barriers for participants from the Global South to participate have been significantly lowered. Overall the online summer school was well received and evaluated – the more balanced mix of participants from the Global North and South was very well appreciated, as well as the guest lectures from (among others) prof dr Annelies Zoomers, dr Guus van Westen, dr ir Gemma van der Haar, prof dr Jaap Zevenbergen, dr Mayke Kaag, dr Femke van Noorloos, dr Murtah Shannon, dr Christien Klaufus, and LANDac fellows James Wangu, Fridah Githuku, Teddy Kisembo, Romy Santpoort and others. Their lectures focussed, among other themes, on the global land rush, land and conflict, land administration, inclusive business and food security, urban land governance, women's land rights and land-based investments. There were some points for improvement, especially; offering more opportunities for online exchange between the participants, using a different platform than MS Teams (e.g. Zoom), and offering more flexibility in the schedule for group work.

**Professional Learning Network**

The field activities of the LANDac fellows were severely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. From March 2020, fellows came together every month to discuss the situation in their countries and the impacts of COVID-19 on poor and vulnerable groups and land governance. After a feedback meeting, the network was expanded in September 2020 to cover more countries in sub-Saharan Africa. It now includes 18 fellows from 13 different countries) and the monthly exchange meetings, set up during the start of the pandemic, continued. During each meeting, different fellows present their work and experiences in connection to the network focus – land-based investments, followed by a discussion and a work session. During the work session, groups of fellows have co-created the project ideas, to be implemented in Q2 of 2021. Furthermore, by the end of 2020, fellows indicated the need for skills workshops and an inventory of the supply and demand for skills workshops. These skill-based workshops will be conducted by the fellows themselves. Most, if not all of them, possess different skills that they are willing to share with others. Starting in the month of April 2021, the network will organize monthly workshops in the field of, among others: writing, research methods, participatory mapping and women's land rights.
PhD network

The LANDac PhD Network has been established under LANDac II and aims to facilitate exchange among PhD students in the field of land governance, working in the Netherlands and abroad. Through this exchange, LANDac contributes to the expertise and visibility of PhD researchers. LANDac has organised a special PhD Network Session during the LANDac Online Encounter on the 30th of June. Four PhD candidates from the LANDac network presented their ongoing work, and received feedback from experts from the LANDac network, as well as from peer PhD candidates. In addition, LANDac partner African Studies Centre organised an online-peer coaching event for PhD students in October, where PhD candidates could learn from each other by sharing their problems and giving feedback and suggestions. The yearly PhD Winter School, organised by the Wageningen University, had been postponed to Spring 2020.

Internships

In 2019 LANDac and ILC initiated a collaboration with regards to internships positions for Utrecht University International Development and Sustainable Development students. In 2020 LANDac and ILC continued this collaboration and extended it to master students from the International Development and from Rural Development masters at Wageningen University. LANDac and ILC act as a liaison between the universities and ILC’s member organisations, who offer students the opportunity to conduct research at their organisations. In 2020, despite the COVID-19 pandemic, three students were successfully matched to and completed their internship at one of ILC’s member organisations. Most of these internships were completed remotely. Eleven other students expressed their interest but were either not matched or are still in the process of being matched to an organisation.

Adjustments in 2020

As described above, the fieldwork activities of the first batch of LANDac fellows (2019-2020) were severely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Most of the fieldwork activities were cancelled, and the programme has been adjusted; fellows came together online every month to discuss the situation in their countries and the impacts of COVID-19 on poor and vulnerable groups and land governance. Based on feedback from the first batch of fellows, and the new situation, the programme of the newly selected fellows in September 2020 has been adapted; there has been no exchange visit to the Netherlands, and there is more emphasis on (online) co-learning and exchange. No other large adjustments were made in comparison with the Annual Plan 2020.
7. LANDdialogue and Policy Influencing

As part of the second phase of LANDac, the LANDac secretariat co-hosts the secretariat of the LANDdialogue, together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The LANDdialogue – the Dutch Land Governance Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue – was founded in 2014 with the aim to improve land governance, in line with international guidelines and agreements (with a focus on the CFS-Voluntary Guidelines on Land Tenure). Within the LANDdialogue, learning about, and the development and application of, practical tools for more inclusive and sustainable land governance are at the centre. Organisations and businesses who are part of the LANDdialogue have committed to jointly develop practical solutions and approaches to effectively improve their impact in terms of land governance and land use abroad. The LANDdialogue has an Organising Committee (OC) supported by the Coordinator and has held periodical High-level dialogue sessions with among others the Dutch Minister of Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation to determine its added value and direction. Additional activities were undertaken by thematic working groups around specific questions, topics and developments.

In 2020, the OC consisted of Both ENDS, Oxfam Novib, FMO, Rabobank, Utrecht University/LANDac, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and IDH (the Sustainable Trade Initiative). This year, the OC in collaboration with the coordinator have had intensive sessions in order to calibrate its approach and strategy to better pursue its envisaged task in fostering changes in behaviour of Dutch actors on land-related issues (or in other words assist in the development of practical solutions and approaches to ensure more inclusive and sustainable land governance and land use practices). In particular, the LANDdialogue seeks to focus more effectively and efficiently on the ‘how’ rather than the ‘why’; i.e. actual implementation practices and collaborative processes. The internal deliberations on a new ‘fit-for-purpose’ LANDdialogue, along with the challenges arising from the COVID-19 pandemic, has impacted publicly visible activities in 2020.

Activities in 2020

The LANDdialogue contributed to and invested time in:

COVID-19
- A joint effort with LANDac for a wide-partner consultation on the effects of COVID-19 on land governance related issues;
- Facilitation of a discussion, and participation in a panel around COVID-19 and land governance together with LANDac and the Land Portal at the international 2020 LANDac conference.

Corporate Social Responsibility
- Joint-consultation processes in the field of CSR; amongst them with the Dutch Banking Association and its CSR-working group and the Dutch CSR Agreement on Horticulture and alignment with advisory services on practical approaches from the field (Resilience, connections to the LANDac FL-programme in Ethiopia);
- Finalisation of OECD-Watch study on land governance in the OECD Guidelines and consultation with Ministry of Foreign Affairs and organising committee on ways to give further direction to enable clear indications on land governance in these guidelines and CSR-framework for enterprises.
The year 2020 served to gain important insights on the functioning of and necessity to restructure the LANDdialogue. The less public activities included a series of moderated strategic discussions and facilitated processes to learn and act on how to deal with the changed external environment in which land governance issues seem to get less (political) attention.
8. Publications in 2020

LANDac publications

❖ Policy-oriented publications


❖ Academic publications


❖ Other publications


❖ Blogs LANDac Online Encounter


❖ Other blogs

Related publications by LANDac partners (non-exhaustive)
Next to the publications listed here, LANDac partners have contributed to a wide range of publications on topics related to land governance in connection to conflict, inequality, food systems, climate policy, urbanisation, land administration, gender, youth, and mobility. A selection (non-exhaustive):

❖ Academic publications

• Spiereburg, M. (2020). Living on other people's land; Impacts of farm conversions to game farming on farm dwellers' abilities to access land in the Eastern Cape, South Africa. Society & Natural Resources, 33(2), 280-299.


❖ Other publications

  https://d3o3cb4w253x5q.cloudfront.net/media/documents/2020_11_land_inequality_synthesis_report_uneven_ground_final_en_spread_low_res_2.pdf [contributions by Barbara Codispoti, Oxfam].

9. Conclusions

In 2020 LANDac continued to serve its partners and the wider land governance community. Especially in this time of crisis, LANDac proved to be relevant to bring actors together to firmly keep land governance on the agenda and map intersections with other major themes like climate, food, gender and youth. We continued to organize well-established activities in adapted format. The collaboration with the LANDac fellows in Sub-Saharan Africa has been meaningful to maintain direct communication channels with the rest of the world in a period when travel has become (near) impossible. We are also pleased that third parties continue to reach out to us to draw on the expertise in our network. The invitation extended by the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO) to develop a knowledge management program for their interventions aiming at improving land governance in a large number of countries testifies to the position the partnership has gained over time.

Synergy within the LANDac partnership

The COVID-19 pandemic has not only underscored the importance of LANDac’s mission in times of crisis – secure access to land makes people more resilient and increases people’s ability to cope with (food security) shocks – but also the importance of LANDac as a partnership. Throughout 2020 the LANDac partners have been able to work together to analyse the impact of COVID-19 on land governance, and to keep land governance firmly on the agenda, e.g. by releasing the ‘Agenda for Knowledge and Action’. The LANDac fellows played an important role in this. When COVID-19 hit the world and flows of people and information was severely restricted, LANDac fellows continued meet online to exchange and update each other about the new realities in their country. From the start of the crisis, they have been closely monitoring and exchanging real-time information on the impacts of COVID-19 and the protective measures on land governance and the livelihoods of poor and vulnerable groups. LANDac in turn has been able to support them by providing them additional opportunities to share their insights at the LANDac Online Encounter, Summer School and other events. Moreover, LANDac has been an important driver of creating online possibilities (e.g. the LANDac Online Encounter) for the global land governance community to continue to meet and exchange, and together continue to push for inclusive and sustainable land governance.

Similar to previous years, LANDac partners continue to value LANDac’s activities that help to translate between different organisations and that offer the opportunity to learn from each other – an important example of this was the kick-off meeting of the Ten Year After applied research project, which sparked the interest of many different organisations (LANDac partners and others) that work on ESIAs from many different angles. LANDac partners also increasingly find each other for exchange and joint activities. Members from the different academic institutions act as guest lecturers in each other’s courses for example (ITC staff taught in the WUR Minor course Natural resource competition worldwide; WUR staff taught at ITC). Joint panels were developed at the Online Encounter. Partners also join each other’s events and promote these amongst their colleagues (see also ‘Events attended as LANDac’ above, for an overview of events the LANDac office joined in 2020, in which many other LANDac partners participated). Another important function of the LANDac partnership are the links that can be established with other organisations or programmes, and the timely updates on these programmes that the partners receive. Examples from 2020 include the links that are established with Cordaid’s Land and Justice research programme and GIZ’s Connective Cities Initiative. Lastly, LANDac partners continue to stay up-to-date on the continuously developing land governance debate and learn about the latest research results, policy developments and practices. This happens during the LANDac partner meetings,
through the LANDac Annual International Conference, the Professional Learning Programme and by training (local) colleagues in the Annual Summer School.

**LANDac in 2021 and beyond**

In November 2020 LANDac has received a no-cost extension by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs – LANDac II will run until 31 August 2022. In the same month, the LANDac network met online for half a day to discuss the plans for LANDac in 2021 and beyond. In 2021 LANDac has a twofold ambition: one, to continue to build on its proven strengths and develop the annual work plan in line with the original intentions, and two, to respond to the challenges related to the worldwide pandemic, updating our knowledge agenda and ways of connecting to the land governance and development community. As such, LANDac will continue its flagship activities throughout 2021, including the LANDac Annual International Conference, Annual Summer School and the Professional Learning Programme. We will pick up on a number of activities around land-based investment that were interrupted in the past year. An example is the ‘Ten Years After’ project, on the effectiveness of ESIA methods in appraising the impacts of land-based intervention by revisiting projects ‘ten years after’. In addition, we will develop a series of new activities and events around the impact of COVID-19, feeding into ongoing debates on land rights and land governance.

Ten years ago, LANDac in its early days was preoccupied principally by the rise of large-scale land acquisition of a cross-border nature, that often undermined people’s livelihoods. Now, such concerns are not gone but the scope of land governance issues has widened as a result of increased awareness of the intersectionality of land rights with a range of important issues, including sustainability and climate change, gender relations, security and conflict management, inclusive business and livelihood opportunities, food and nutrition security, urban and infrastructure development, - or in other words: realisation of a large part of the SDG agenda. In issues such as these, the mission of LANDac is to bring together relevant stakeholders and establish a bridge between knowledge and practise. This will continue to be our preoccupation. In the past several months the LANDac partnership has been working on a Knowledge Management proposal for the LAND-at-scale programme financed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and executed by RVO. If all goes well, we look forward to continuing this bridging mission through this and other initiatives in the years ahead.
### Annex 1. Overview activities 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Outputs</th>
<th>Outcomes</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. LANDac secretariat activities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Knowledge brokerage; improved exchange and dialogue; improved coordination and synergy between stakeholders in the NL as well as international stakeholders; agenda-setting.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 1.1 Dutch contact point for land governance | • 12 external requests answered  
• Several events organised (see 3.2) | | |
| 1.2 Representing LANDac at relevant events in the Netherlands and abroad | • EALAN meeting ITC Twente (13 January)  
• Consortium Meeting Diamonds in the Delta (16 January)  
• RVO LAND-at-scale Roundtable Somalia (29 January)  
• Roundtable land registration and access to justice in conflict-affected settings (10 February)  
• Pathways to Sustainability Conference (5 March)  
• Workshop/Brainstorm Minor Natural Resource Governance (6 April)  
• GLTN Partner Meeting (1-4 December)  
• Various webinars/online sessions and discussions | Agenda-setting; knowledge brokerage; improved exchange and dialogue; promotion of land-sensitive (business) practices |
| 1.3 Website maintenance; social media outreach | • Website update continued  
  o Added ‘Online Learning’ and ‘Themes’  
  o LANDac Online Encounter Blog Series  
  o LANDac Blog Series: The Golden Conflict in Sudan  
  o LANDac Blog Series: Land Governance and the COVID-19 Pandemic  
  o COVID-19 information hub  
• 57 new subscriptions to Newsletter  
• 180 new followers on Twitter | Knowledge brokerage; exchanging information about best practices and innovative solutions; improved understanding of land governance among a range of stakeholders; informed Dutch public. |
| 1.4 Editing and disseminating publications | • LANDac Conference Report 2020  
• Brief series Land, Housing and COVID-19  
• Land Governance and the COVID-19 Crisis: Agenda for knowledge and action | Evidence-based policy & practice; policies based on our research findings; better policy coherence; promotion of land-sensitive (business) practices; knowledge brokerage, informed private sector, civil society actors and policymakers. |
## 2. Knowledge generation: Research

### 2.1 Ten-years after: A reality check on impact assessments of infrastructural projects
- Postponed to 2021

### 2.2 Professional Learning Programme (PLP) fieldwork activities
- Fieldwork and analysing results by participants PLP (2019-2020):
  - Uganda: impact of urbanisation & land-based investments on Kibugambata community;
  - Kenya: alternative land investment models;
  - Sudan: empowering women and men through community mapping;
- Informed and trained experts in a variety of land governance topics; capacity development and improved understanding of land governance among a range of stakeholders; agenda-setting; improved exchange and dialogue & increased mutual understanding: awareness of differing perspectives, and priorities; creating an enabling environment for exchanging information about best practices and innovative solutions.

### 2.3 PhD research & activities
- LANDac PhD research Alda Salomão completed
- PhD research Erlis Saputra completed
- PhD Session during LANDac Online Encounter (30 June)
- Informed and trained experts in a variety of land governance topics; evidence-based policy & practice; policies based on our research findings

### 2.4 Internships
- Continuation ILC – LANDac internships
- Capacity development and improved understanding of land governance among a range of stakeholders.

## 3. Knowledge management: Conferences and events

### 3.1 LANDac Annual Conference 2020
- LANDac Online Encounter (29 June - 3 July) attended by more than 250 people during 5 days.
- Creating an enabling environment for exchanging information about best practices and innovative solutions; knowledge brokerage; informed civil society and private sector actors, policymakers and academics; increased mutual understanding: awareness of differing perspectives, and priorities.

### 3.2 Public events or meetings
- Opening Meeting Ten Years After Project (9 March)
- [Roundtable Nigeria at MoFA (26 March, cancelled)]
- [LANDac 10-year anniversary (23 April, cancelled)]
- Online Discussion Land Governance and COVID-19 (19-24 June, online)
- LAND-at-scale Roundtable Discussion on Specific Country Project Ideas (3 September, online)
- LANDac Lunch Meet-up Ethiopia (9 December)
- Knowledge brokerage; improved exchange and dialogue; improved coordination and synergy between stakeholders in the NL as well as international stakeholders; agenda-setting.
### 4. Capacity building

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4.1</th>
<th>LANDac Annual Summer School 2019</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Annual Summer School (6 – 17 July) attended by 43 participants from 21 different countries</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Informed and trained experts in a variety of land governance topics; capacity development and improved understanding of land governance among a range of stakeholders; creating an enabling environment for exchanging information about best practices and innovative solutions.</td>
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<th>4.2</th>
<th>Professional Learning Programme</th>
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<td></td>
<td>• Exchange visit and writeshop Uganda (early May, cancelled)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Establishing a community of practice</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Online exchange and co-learning meetings, specific focus on COVID-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Informed and trained experts in a variety of land governance topics; capacity development and improved understanding of land governance among a range of stakeholders; agenda-setting; improved exchange and dialogue &amp; increased mutual understanding: awareness of differing perspectives, and priorities, creating an enabling environment for exchanging information about best practices and innovative solutions.</td>
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### 5. LANDdialogue

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<th>6.1</th>
<th>Land Governance Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue (LG-MSD) support</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Improved exchange and dialogue; improved coordination and synergy between stakeholders in the NL; promotion of land-sensitive (business) practices; better policy coherence.</td>
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</table>
Annex 2. Work Plan 2020

**LANDac II Annual Work Plan 2020**

In 2020 LANDac will continue to work as a strong, committed partnership for inclusive and sustainable land governance. Central to our work is understanding the drivers of large-scale land investments (public and private investments in agri-food and biofuels, infrastructure, urbanisation) in connection to broader shifts in land governance. We analyse the consequences of pressures on land in terms of landscape change and socio-economic consequences (regarding food security, land access for women and youth, displacement, migration) and explore how land governance interventions may contribute to solutions (via the VGGTs, fair compensation, stakeholder dialogue). We are committed to keeping LANDac up-to-date and relevant. Therefore, in the light of recent public and policy concern for with climate change, as well as a surge in (Dutch) investments to address the expected consequences of climate change, LANDac’s thematic focus of 2020 will centre on the link between land governance and climate change.

To realise our ambitions outlined in the LANDac II proposal (2016), LANDac will continue its flagship activities in 2020, including the Annual International Conference, Annual Summer School, and Professional Learning Programme, which are increasingly appreciated by a wide range of actors in the academic and policy field. In addition, we seek to re-boost our role in developing strategic, relevant research and in capacity-building. To further pursue the objectives formulated for LANDac II and to build maximally on the expertise and synergy of the partnership, we will identify and develop 3-5 projects on applied research and/or capacity building through an internal selection procedure. The activities selected will have a clear added value to the LANDac agenda and involve at least two LANDac partners.

The following text further elaborates on LANDac’s strategy for 2020, which is followed by the budget and the detailed activities of LANDac in the period from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020.

**LANDac in 2020: Highlights and Ambitions**

**Thematic focus: the link between land governance and climate change**

In the light of recent public and policy concern for the relationship between land governance and climate change, prompted by publications such as the IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Land, and the EAT-Lancet report of land-food-health, as well as a surge in (Dutch) investments to combat the consequences of climate change, including the launch of the Dutch Climate Fund, LANDac’s thematic focus of 2020 will specifically include the land - climate change link. As the current debate around climate change often highlights the ‘urgency to act’, many of the important lessons drawn by LANDac and others in the past 10-years risk being forgotten by different stakeholders in pursuit of mitigation or adaptation strategies. These include the need for proper procedures and sufficient consultation, FPIC, and impact assessments. LANDac therefore aims to re-emphasize and consolidate these lessons learned. Current debates on climate change in relation to future food and nutrition security, forced displacement and migration, infrastructure developments, community rights and urbanization processes need to be revisited and connected to the land governance debate, in order to ensure that the diverse interests of stakeholders and their respective livelihoods are taken into account, and to safeguard that land and other (natural) resources are being exploited in a sustainable way. The link between land governance and climate change will therefore be the focus of LANDac’s 10-year anniversary in 2020, as well as the main theme of the 2020 Annual International Conference (more details below).

**Strengthening Academic and Applied Research, and Capacity Building**
LANDac aims to stimulate research and capacity building on land governance issues that are new, not sufficiently attended to, or of increasing urgency. On the LANDac Strategy Day on the 25th of October 2019, the LANDac partnership has made an inventory of LANDac’s research and capacity building activities and achievements up until 2019, and discussed the ways forward for LANDac up to June 2021. As a result, the partnership has decided to give its research and capacity building agenda a strong boost by releasing an internal call for proposals to reach concrete and significant outcomes in two core areas of the LANDac II plan: Knowledge Generation (in particular academic and applied research), and Capacity Building (in particular facilitating learning and multi-stakeholder exchange, as well as e-learning). With this internal call, we aim to explore new or underrepresented issues in the land governance field, and develop a relevant research agenda that maximizes the potential of the partnership and that can swiftly react to emerging issues within the broader land governance agenda. Moreover, this internal call also aims to achieve concrete results for these two workstreams, as outlined in the LANDac II proposal. Proposals therefore need to either build upon or identify gaps in past LANDac activities, as well as further increase LANDac partner collaboration – proposals need to include at least two partner organisation, in which preference is given to proposals that cross over academic-policy-practitioner boundaries. Attention will also be given to enhancing the options for future continuation of land governance-related cooperation and exchange; activities in the two workstreams could also serve a useful role in outlining successor arrangements for securing a knowledge platform on land governance beyond the current project period (LANDac II).

Proposals will be submitted before the 1st of December 2019. Proposed activities could fall into either workstream or a combination of them and should take place in 2020. We expect proposals in the range between 20,000 – 25,000 euros, though proposals asking for smaller amounts will also be taken into consideration. The budget for the proposal is maximum 25,000 euros, which can be topped up with 2,000 – 3,000 euros for an e-learning component, closely connected to the activities proposed. The budget for 2020 will therefore be topped up with part of the remaining budget of these two workstream for the years 2016 – 2019, as shown in the budget below.

Continuing to systematically monitor transformations in investment hubs
Following the success of multi-stakeholder learning initiatives between 2016 - 2018 (such as the Learning Platforms in Mozambique, Tanzania, and Uganda, as well as the LAND- and CITYforum meetings), LANDac kicked-off its Professional Learning Programme on the 26th of June 2019. In this programme, more emphasis is put on finding ways to systematically follow what is happening on the ground, focusing in particular on land-related investments originating from Dutch organisations and businesses. Eight professionals working for NGOs, governmental agencies, universities or businesses in Uganda, Senegal, Ethiopia, Sudan, Kenya and Mozambique have followed an intensive three-week training and exchange of experiences in the Netherlands in June and July 2019. In 2020 this group of professionals will continue their work with the Professional Learning Programme, conducting field work, collecting data on land investments, and setting up multi-stakeholder meetings in their particular regions. The research projects in the selected locations focus on the impacts of urbanization processes and land-based investments on local residents (Uganda), infrastructure development-induced displacement (Uganda), the establishment of Special Economic Zones (SEZ) and their impact on farming communities (Senegal), alternative land investment models for large-scale land-based investments that include local women and men (Kenya), the impact of Dutch floriculture companies on local communities (Ethiopia), the empowerment of women and men through community mapping tools (Sudan) and the empowerment of local women and men in the face of large-scale land deals for agriculture (Kenya). Their research shows in particular how weaker parties are treated in multi-stakeholder settings and aims to draw lessons as to how their interests can be better secured.
In 2020 we aim to further increase the link between the professionals in the field and the LANDac partners in the Netherlands, through the establishment of a mentorship. The professionals and partners are connected to each other to brainstorm on the fieldwork and data collection, and the establishment of multi-stakeholder meetings. The findings of the fieldwork and the experiences of the fellows will be shared at the 2020 Annual International Conference. Moreover, a new batch of professionals will be selected and will start in 2020. In order to ensure continuation of the programme, LANDac will also initiate join proposal writing to scale up these activities.
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1. LANDac secretariat activities</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>Coordination and running the LANDac secretariat</td>
<td>The secretariat, consisting of 2 FTEs, responsible for the daily management of the LANDac activities and project implementation.</td>
<td>150,000</td>
<td>150,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Q1-Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>Dutch contact point for land governance</td>
<td>Ad hoc contact point for questions and issues related to land governance, via email, website and meetings and events.</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Q1-Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>Representing LANDac at relevant events in the Netherlands and abroad</td>
<td>Presence at conferences and relevant events where deemed applicable.</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Q1-Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>Website maintenance; social media outreach</td>
<td>Updating the website and other online activities, incl. social media outreach; strengthened hub function with LinkedIn page; publishing LANDac Newsletter monthly.</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Q1-Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>Publications for Knowledge Generation (incl. editing)</td>
<td>Published policy and research briefs related to output from 2.1, 2.2, 4.2, 5.1 and 5.2.</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Q1-Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>2. Knowledge generation: Research</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>Academic and applied research</td>
<td>Through an internal call for proposals, LANDac will initiate 1-2 short-term, applied research projects (e.g. pilot studies, fact-finding missions, baseline data collection) aligned with the activities in 4.2, 5.1 and 5.2.</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>22,000</td>
<td>28,000</td>
<td>Q2-Q4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 2.1a Professional Learning Programme with professionals from Ethiopia, Senegal, Kenya, Uganda, Mozambique, and Sudan

Professionals from the LANDac Professional Learning Programme 2019 - 2020, trained by LANDac partners, monitor and communicate developments in six selected countries. This includes costs for field research.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Q1-Q2</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16,500</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>16,500</td>
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</table>

### 2.2 PhD network

Organise annual meeting of the PhD network of researchers based in the Netherlands working on land-related issues; facilitate publication of policy briefs when a PhD is completed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Q3</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>400</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>-</td>
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### 3. Knowledge management: Conferences and events

#### 3.1 LANDac Annual Conference 2020

Two-day international conference.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Q3</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20,000 *</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>20,000 *</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 3.2 Public events around emerging topics / LANDac 10-year anniversary.

Organise public events around emerging topics, particularly related to output from items 2.1, 3.1, 4.2, 5.1 and 5.2. In 2020 LANDac will organise a public event around its 10-year anniversary on the 23rd of April 2020.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Q1-Q4</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,000 *</td>
<td>1,000 *</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 3.3 Disseminating outcomes of (inter)national events and conferences

Report on and share output from items 1.3, 3.1 and 3.2 with participants, LANDac partners and the wider audience via the LANDac Newsletter, website and social media.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Q1-Q4</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>2,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 4. Capacity building

#### 4.1 LANDac Annual Summer School 2020

Training of students and professionals on land governance, closely related to items 3.1 and 5.1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Q2-Q3</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 4.2 Facilitating country-specific learning and multi-stakeholder platforms.

Through an internal call for proposals, LANDac will initiate 1-2 capacity building projects, aligned with activities in 2.1, 5.1 and 5.2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Q2-Q4</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>18,000</td>
<td>32,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 4.2a Professional Learning Programme with professionals from Ethiopia, Senegal, Kenya, Uganda, Mozambique, and Sudan

Professionals from the LANDac Professional Learning Programme 2019 - 2020, trained by LANDac partners, monitor and communicate developments in six selected countries. This includes costs for field research.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Q1-Q4</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12,500</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>12,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 4. Development of MSc programme on land governance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Q1-Q4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Development of MSc programme on land governance</td>
<td>Development of a feasibility study of a MSc programme on land governance.</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 4.4 Development of e-course land governance and commons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Q1-Q4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Development of e-course land governance and commons</td>
<td>Exploration of the possibility of an e-learning module, drawing from initiatives under 2.1, 2.2, 4.2, 5.1 and 5.2.</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 4.5 In-house training programme on land governance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Q1-Q4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In-house training programme on land governance</td>
<td>Tailor-made training for companies and organisations on land governance to raise awareness about land issues in their projects and daily business.</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 5. Multi-stakeholder Dialogues

#### 5.1 Professional Learning Programme 2020 – 2021 with professionals from the field.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Q1-Q4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professional Learning Programme 2020 – 2021 with professionals from the field.</td>
<td>Following the success of multi-stakeholder learning initiatives in 2016 – 2018, professionals from the field will be selected for the LANDac Professional Learning Programme 2020 – 2021. They will be trained by LANDac partners, monitor and communicate developments in selected countries. This includes costs for training in the Netherlands, field research and the organisation of multi-stakeholder platforms in the field.</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>18,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Total budget LANDac II 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Q1-Q4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total budget LANDac II 2020</td>
<td>355,000</td>
<td>239,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 6. LANDdialogue

#### 6.1 Land Governance Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue (LG-MSD) support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Q1-Q4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Land Governance Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue (LG-MSD) support</td>
<td>Secretariat activities including meeting facilitation and budget management</td>
<td>75,000</td>
<td>75,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Funds to be allocated by LG-MSD Organising Committee and agreed upon by LANDac partners*
* Real costs are estimated to be higher, based on experiences between 2016 – 2019. If necessary, extra costs will be balanced with revenue from the Annual Summer School 2016 – 2020.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Q1</th>
<th>Q2</th>
<th>Q3</th>
<th>Q4</th>
<th>Total (Q1-Q4)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total budget LANDdialogue support 2020</strong></td>
<td>75,000</td>
<td>75,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>75,000</td>
<td>Q1-Q4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BZ contribution 2020</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>301,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Partner contributions 2020</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>13,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total budget 2020</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>430,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Allocation of the budget: Activities in 2020**

1. **LANDac secretariat activities**

   LANDac is a knowledge centre for land governance expertise in the Netherlands, with a secretariat to expedite connections between actors and topics, and to develop and implement a research agenda. The secretariat coordinates the activities detailed in this plan, represents LANDac at (inter)national events, manages the website, ensures publications are produced and disseminated, and coordinates the research activities. The secretariat will be strengthened by hiring extra staff in the run-up to the 2020 Annual International Conference and the 2020 Annual Summer School, increasing the capacity of the secretariat up to a total equivalent of 2 FTE (currently 1.5 FTE). This expansion is necessary due to the growth of these landmark activities of LANDac, which draw in increasing numbers of participants.

2. **Knowledge generation: Research**

   In collaboration with civil society, private sector representatives, research institutions and embassies, LANDac conducts research and opens up new funding opportunities for pilot projects aiming to explore new topics. During LANDac's Strategy Day on the 25th of October 2019, the LANDac partners have made an inventory of LANDac’s research activities and achievements up until 2019 and discussed the strategy for LANDac up until June 2021. As a result, the partnership has decided to give its research agenda a strong boost through an internal call for proposals for the Applied and Academic Research workstream. The objective of this internal call is to reach concrete and significant outcomes in two core areas of the LANDac II plan: Knowledge Generation (in particular academic and applied research), and Capacity Building (in particular facilitating learning and multi-stakeholder exchange, as well as e-learning, see below). Activities proposed could fall into either of these areas or a combination of them. Proposal should be submitted before the 1st of December 2019 for activities to take place in 2020 and should add value to the larger LANDac II agenda, either by building upon previous LANDac activities or address knowledge gaps with regards to previous LANDac activities.

   LANDac will also continue the PhD Network and link Master’s students to relevant research projects and internships. The latter has been an ongoing activity for years, but now LANDac has also initiated a collaboration with the International Land Coalition for this purpose. The first master students in this collaborative arrangement will start their internships in February 2020 onwards.

3. **Knowledge management: Conferences and events**

   One of LANDac’s core activities is the Annual International Conference in Utrecht, that brings together stakeholders from a wide variety of backgrounds (academia, policy makers, private sector) from around the world. In the light of recent surge of interest in the link between climate change and land governance, triggered by earlier mentioned reports (the IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Land, and the work of the EAT-Lancet commission on Food, Planet and Health), the 2020 Annual International Conference *Land Governance: Challenges around Climate Change* will focus on the relationships between land governance and climate change, linking up to current topics such as climate adaptation measures, climate justice, infrastructure development and migration flows. Our aim is to accommodate the maximum capacity of the venue at between 250 and 300 participants. Part of budget for disseminating outcomes of (inter)national events and conferences (budget line 3.3.) will be allocated to the development of a report on the 2020 conference.
A highlight in 2020 is the celebration of LANDac’s 10-year anniversary on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April, hosted by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This public event will focus on land as a tool to enhance climate change adaptation. The day consists of two parts: several simultaneous work sessions with selected communities from different sectors on how to use land as a tool in their work, and celebrations with the wider LANDac community in which we look back at 10 years of LANDac accomplishments.

LANDac will also organise a reflection meeting after the World Bank Conference 2020 in April/May 2020 in the Netherlands. Other events such as lunch lectures and seminars to disseminate research results, facilitate dialogue and exchange and inform Dutch stakeholders about outcomes of international events and emerging land-related topics will be organised based on demands and needs identified by LANDac partners.

4. **Capacity building**

   To meet the demand for an improved understanding of land governance from Dutch and international organisations, LANDac provides opportunities for capacity development. Similar to the Knowledge Generation workstream, the LANDac partners have made an inventory of LANDac’s capacity building activities and achievements up until 2019 and discussed the strategy for LANDac towards June 2021. As a result, the partnership has decided to release an internal call for proposals for the Capacity Building workstream, to be submitted before the 1<sup>st</sup> of December 2019. The objective of this internal call is to reach concrete and significant outcomes in two core areas of the LANDac II plan: Knowledge Generation (in particular Academic and Applied Research), and Capacity building (in particular Facilitating Learning and Multi-stakeholder Exchange, as well as E-learning). The proposed activities could fall into either of these areas or a combination of them, and should take place in 2020. Proposals should also fit within the larger LANDac II agenda, either building upon previous LANDac activities or address knowledge gaps with regards to previous LANDac activities. In this line, LANDac will also develop an e-module on land governance, closely related to the proposal developed under the Knowledge Generation and Capacity Building workstreams.

   In 2020, the Annual Summer School will also take place again, which is an opportunity for researchers, MSc and PhD students and professionals from development organizations and related fields to acquire up-to-date knowledge on new land pressures and learn how to place these in broader theoretical contexts and policy debates. Participants discuss best practices in land governance from different perspectives and on multiple levels, from local to international. The Summer School is co-funded by Utrecht University, and participants pay course fees, which ultimately makes this an income-generating activity.

   LANDac will also explore the feasibility of a Joint Master’s programme on Land Governance, together with its academic partners. Interests, ideas and requirements for the development of such a programme will examined in a feasibility study. Extra budget has therefore been allocated to ensure the realization of such a study.

   LANDac also continues to facilitate tailor-made in-house trainings for organisations and companies that need to raise awareness about land issues in their project work. This is a down-scaled version of LANDac’s annual two-week Summer School for practitioners, government officials, PhD and Master’s students in July.
5. **Multi-stakeholder Dialogues**

LANDac strives to promote common understanding and brings actors together to contribute to more inclusive solutions. Following the success of multi-stakeholder learning initiatives between 2016 - 2018, these initiatives will be given follow up in 2020 with the network of area experts under the Professional Learning Programme, initiated in 2019. Eight selected candidates, while working at NGOs, governmental agencies, universities or private enterprises in different African countries, are trained by LANDac partners and exchange experiences and best practices. These LANDac fellows systematically research selected locations, organise multi-stakeholder meetings and set-up training programmes. The Professional Learning Programme aims to provide LANDac with eyes and ears on the ground in hotspots of land governance issues. The activities aim to bring stakeholders together in the field to identify ways to make land-based investments – whether in agriculture, infrastructure, nature conservation or natural resource extraction – more inclusive and sustainable. In 2020 the LANDac fellows will continue their field work and share their findings and experiences at the LANDac Annual International Conference 2020. Budget is also allocated for the selection and start of a new batch of professionals for 2020-2021. LANDac will also play an initiating role in joint proposal writing to scale up these activities.

6. **LANDdialogue**

Since the inception of the Land Governance Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue (LG-MSD, or LANDdialogue as it is now commonly known) in 2014, LANDac has been involved as a participant in the Organising Committee (OC). As of the start of LANDac II, it was decided that the LANDac secretariat would also play a more fundamental role in the organisation of the LANDdialogue, acting as its secretariat, facilitating meetings and managing the budget. The OC remains responsible for allocating the LANDdialogue budget; however, LANDac partners will also be asked to give their consent on major activities (other than routine items such as meeting costs and compensation of coordinator/support officer) before they are approved.

In 2019, part of the LANDdialogue budget was used to hire a part-time support officer to liaise with LANDdialogue OC members and the broader network, coordinate the formulation of a new activity agenda for the coming years, and initiate new activities in line with this agenda. This includes issues such as the impact of infrastructure sector, early engagement initiatives, and the gender programme.

In 2020, this post will be continued on a part-time basis and the main activities will be related to the implementation of the LANDdialogue’s new action agenda, including a new High-Level with participation of the new Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation. The LANDac secretariat will continue to play a more fundamental role in the organisation of the LANDdialogue, by facilitating meetings and budget management. Some of the priorities identified within the LANDdialogue are consolidation of the organisational structure, alignment with international processes, policy coherence within Dutch policies, and its work on the knowledge sharing and joint learning agenda.

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**About LANDac**

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

In 2016 LANDac entered its second phase: LANDac II was launched on 26 October 2016 and runs until mid-2021. During LANDac II, partners who share a concern for understanding and addressing new and existing types of land-related conflicts and increasing land inequality continue to work together to promote equitable and sustainable development in the Global South.

The LANDac network brings together actors, conducts research, and distributes information, focusing on new pressures and competing claims on land and natural resources. In order to understand and address new and existing types of land-related conflicts, LANDac brings together stakeholders who might not otherwise meet – particularly academic researchers, private sector and civil society representatives, and policy makers in the field of land governance and development.

Pressing themes that are addressed under LANDac II include the impact of large-scale land deals in agriculture for food production and biofuels, infrastructure development, women’s land rights, post-conflict and urban land governance challenges, climate adaptation and migration. LANDac believes that a multi-stakeholder and participatory approach is the best way to ensure human well-being is at the centre of the land agenda.

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