



LANDac Online Encounter 2020 PROGRAMME



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Welcome

Welcome to the LANDac Online Encounter 2020!

LANDac – the Netherlands Academy on Land Governance for Equitable and Sustainable Development – brings together researchers, policy makers, development practitioners and business professionals in the field of land governance and development. Despite the current COVID-19 pandemic, LANDac wishes 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 are 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. What are the immediate effects of the pandemic, and how might it change the future work and priorities of the land governance community?

We are looking forward to fruitful discussions, webinars and online sessions, and of course we hope to see you at one of our virtual networking opportunities!

On behalf of the Organising Committee,

Joanny Bélair (University of Ottawa), Gemma van der Haar (Wageningen University), Lotte van der Heijden (LANDac), Laura Meggiolaro (Land Portal Foundation), Richard Sliuzas (ITC – University of Twente), Neil Sorensen (Land Portal Foundation), Marja Spierenburg (Leiden University), Guus van Westen (Utrecht University), Chantal Wieckardt (LANDac).

LANDac Partners

Utrecht University, Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, African Studies Centre Leiden, Agriterra, ITC University of Twente, Royal Tropical Institute (KIT), Land Portal Foundation, Oxfam Novib, Royal Haskoning DHV, VNG International and Wageningen University and Research.

We are pleased to announce that the [Land Portal Foundation](#) is the key media partner for the LANDac Online Encounter 2020!

Website

www.landgovernance.org

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LANDac Online Encounter 2020 – Overview

Monday 29th of June

14:00 – 14:15 **Opening** by LANDac chairs dr Gemma van der Haar (Wageningen University) and dr Guus van Westen (Utrecht University)

14:15 – 15:45 **Keynotes**

Moderation: Prof dr Marja Spierenburg (Leiden University)

Keynote prof dr Jun Borrás (International Institute of Social Studies, Erasmus University)

Keynote prof dr Doreen Stabinsky (College of the Atlantic, Bar Harbor) & Peter Riggs (Pivot Point and Climate Land Ambition and Rights Alliance (CLARA))

Questions from the audience

15:45 – 16:00 Break

16:00 – 16:30 **Virtual networking**

Tuesday 30th of June

10:00 – 13:00 **PhD session**

14:00 – 15:30 **Webinar** Multifaceted Challenges of Land and Climate Change – Oxfam Novib and the Land Portal Foundation

15:30 – 16:30 **Parallel session 1** Climate change mitigation instruments and interventions in the land sector: perspectives from multi-level, multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder processes – International Land Coalition & International Fund for Agricultural Development

Parallel session 2 Community rights to forest lands: What are key conditions for success? – Tropenbos International, IUCN Netherlands Committee & Milieudefensie

Wednesday 1st of July

14:00 – 15:30 **Webinar** Covid-19 Pandemic and Land Governance – LANDac, the LANDdialogue and the Land Portal Foundation

- 15:30 – 16:30 **Parallel session 1** Towards new realities: Monitoring land-based investments before, during and after COVID-19 – LANDac fellowship
Parallel session 2 Mitigation of GHG-Emissions through Effective Peatland Management – German AgriForest Privatisation Agency
Parallel session 3 Monitoring, Managing and Protecting the Integrity of Land Governance Systems, Land Registration and Land Claims from Climate Change Effects Using Blockchain Technology – Power of Chain (Global Consultancy LLC)

Thursday 2nd of July

- 14:00 – 15:30 **Webinar** The Nexus of Land Governance and Climate Change Adaptation in Relation to Urban Tenure – ITC University of Twente and the Land Portal Foundation
- 15:30 – 16:30 **Parallel session 1** Redirecting investments: Exploring and changing food communication regimes to create recognition for farmer-led irrigation development & urban agriculture in Africa's expanding cities – Utrecht University and partners
Parallel session 2 Why feelings matter when it comes to measuring tenure security – Prindex

Friday 3rd of July

- 14:00 – 15:00 **Closing panel & discussion**
Moderation: Prof dr Richard Sliuzas (ITC University of Twente)
Panellist: prof dr Annelies Zoomers (Utrecht University), Michael Rice (Both ENDS), Salaheldin Abukashawa (ISTIDAMA Centre for Land and Environmental Governance and LANDac fellow) and dr Alda Salomão (Centro Terra Viva (CTV)).
- 15:00 – 15:15 **Closing** by LANDac chairs dr Gemma van der Haar (Wageningen University) and dr Guus van Westen (Utrecht University)
- 15:15 – 15:30 Break
- 15:30 – 16:00 **Virtual networking**

Note: times are displayed in CEST (Central European Summer Time)

Registration

Participating in the LANDac Online Encounter 2020 is **free of charge!** In order to join the Online Encounter, **registration is required.** We kindly ask you to **register for each day separately** and indicate which parallel session you wish to join. If you (only) wish to join a specific parallel session, please register for the full day and join the parallel session at the indicated time slot in the programme.

Register now at the following links!

[Register for day 1](#) – Opening session and keynotes

[Register for day 2](#) – Webinar ‘Multifaceted Challenges of Land and Climate Change’ & Parallel sessions

[Register for day 3](#) – Webinar ‘Covid-19 Crisis and Land Governance’ & Parallel Sessions

[Register for day 4](#) – Webinar ‘The Nexus of Land Governance and Climate Change Adaptation in Relation to Urban Tenure’ & Parallel Sessions

[Register for day 5](#) – Closing panel & discussion

[Register for the PhD session](#) on Tuesday June 30th

Deadline for registration: June 28, 2020.

For questions please contact us at landac.geo@uu.nl

Voices of the LANDac Community

We would like to meet you! Join us at one of our virtual networking opportunities or add your voice to the 'Voices from the LANDac Community'!

How can you add your voice? Record a 30-second video of yourself and share it with us*. Please keep the following guidelines in mind:

- The video may last 30 seconds max.
- Record your video horizontally
- Do not forget to briefly introduce yourself.
- Answer one of the following questions:
 - Why are you part of the LANDac community?
 - Why did you join the LANDac Online Encounter?
- Share your video with us at landac2020@gmail.com

Get to know the diverse voices from the LANDac community [here!](#)

**Please note that by sharing your video with us, you give permission to publish the video online at the LANDac and Land Portal website and YouTube channels.*

Programme Description

Day 1 – Monday 29th June

Keynote Speakers

JUN BORRAS

Keynote **Changing the Climate of Global Land Politics**

Saturnino ('Jun') M. Borrás Jr. is a Professor of Agrarian Studies at the International Institute of Social Studies (ISS) in The Hague, Editor-In-Chief of the Journal of Peasant Studies, Fellow of the Transnational Institute (TNI) and Adjunct Professor at the College of Humanities and Development Studies (COHD) of China Agricultural University in Beijing. He is on the Web of Science Global Highly Cited Researchers List (2018, 2019), and is a recipient of the European Research Council (ERC) Advanced Grant (2019-2024) for his research project "commodity & land rushes: reshaping five spheres of global social life - food, climate change politics, labour/migration, state/citizenship, and geopolitics" in Africa, Asia and Latin America. He has been awarded the 2020 Ester Boserup Prize for research on development. He has recently published articles on climate change and land in [World Development](#) and [Land Use Policy](#), as well as on populism in [Journal of Agrarian Change](#).



DOREEN STABINSKY & PETER RIGGS

Keynote **Missing Pathways**

Doreen Stabinsky is Professor of Global Environmental Politics at the College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor, Maine. Her primary area of research, policy analysis and advocacy is at the nexus between climate change, agriculture and food security.

Peter Riggs is the Director of Pivot Point, a U.S. non-profit, and current convener of the Climate Land Ambition and Rights Alliance (CLARA) network. He worked formerly as a program officer for the Ford Foundation, Rockefeller Brothers Fund, Open Society Institute, and Packard Foundation.



Day 2 – Tuesday 30th June

Webinar

Multifaceted Challenges of Land and Climate Change: The interconnection of land rights and climate responses at micro, meso and macro level.

Organisers: Oxfam Novib and The Land Portal Foundation

Moderation: Barbara Codispoti, Global Land Program Lead, Oxfam Novib

The issues addressed in this webinar are threefold. Firstly, climate change has a far reaching and devastating impact on people and societies depending on land and natural resources. People who did the least to cause climate change – are the most affected. Secondly, the dominant exploitative relationship toward land resources, based on an unequal economic model, is among the major contributors to human-induced climate change. The unprecedented rate at which land, forests and natural resources are being exploited is one of the leading drivers of the climate crisis. And lastly, land is also a key part of the solution to climate change and there is growing interest in nature-based solutions as a cost-effective strategy to mitigate and adapt to climate change. If not properly addressed, these solutions could perpetuate inequality in use/control of land and natural resources, ignoring or undermining local community rights, particularly of vulnerable groups under the guise of being environmentally friendly. Addressing these challenges requires to re-define property rights and tenurial arrangements, in combination with adaptive and sustainable management of land and natural resources. It also requires combining action at micro, meso and macro level for systemic change.

This webinar aims to explore the following question: What kind of land governance will foster adequate climate response actions?

Oxfam is currently investing in deepening the analysis of land & climate nexus at both country and global level. An opportunity to bring together many of these experiences was offered by a [peer-learning exchange](#) 'Property rights, land tenure security and sustainable land use management in the context of climate change' under [Oxfam's land learning series](#). This webinar builds on the findings of the learning event, and highlights the challenges and solutions at micro, meso and macro level, proposed by practitioners and researchers

Panellists:

- Dr. Sara J. Scherr, President and CEO EcoAgriculture Partners
- Amy Senter, Chief Sustainability Officer, Kellogg Company
- Dr. Jagdish Krishnaswamy, Senior Fellow, Suri Sehgal Centre for Biodiversity and Conservation
- Clemence Abbes, Oxfam Peru

Parallel Sessions

- ❖ **Parallel Session 1:** Climate change mitigation instruments and interventions in the land sector: perspectives from multi-level, multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder processes

Organisers: International Land Coalition and International Fund for Agricultural Development (with ILC Members and partners working on climate change mitigation and adaptation)

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development's (2030 Agenda) efforts to link sustainable development, land and climate change have yielded most results in contexts where the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) provides funding and technical support to developing countries. Targets related to climate change are intrinsically interrelated to land, yet often adaptation responses present complex political realities, particularly in unstable contexts where power, politics and lack of coordination shape adaptation outcomes. This roundtable seeks to investigate the challenges faced when tenure security activities are pursued in support of the effective implementation of climate adaptation interventions. A particular focus will be placed on how to deal with multi-level, multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder issues. It will bring together a variety of different actors with different institutional backgrounds, working in the land sector and presently dealing with the effective implementation of climate change mitigation initiatives. The panel will give practical insights into the implementation of global climate change mitigation and adaptation instruments in effectively supporting national-level interventions and coordination in the context of land tenure issues. To this end, three presentations, totalling seven case studies aim to put the global instruments into perspective by sharing lessons learned from the field, with a focus on the impact of land institutional settings for local communities, and the role played by multi-stakeholders approaches to support inclusive land policy dialogue and reform in different countries.

Presentations:

1. People-Centred Land Governance for Climate Change mitigation and adaptation – This paper will position secure land tenure and people-centred land governance as key imperatives in climate change adaptation and mitigation measures. Framed on the above premise, the paper will convey a set of advocacy messages on why and how to integrate secure land tenure and people-centred land governance into the debate on climate change adaptation and effective mitigation - Buhle Nxumalo, Rukshana Nanayakkara, Ward Anseeuw (ILC);
2. Working to De-Silo Efforts to Promote Land Rights and Mitigate Climate Change in Myanmar: By presenting three practical and empirical cases (setting up multi-stakeholder/multi-sectoral programs; support to multi-level governance structures; community forest management), this paper discusses the motivation and challenges encountered to link pro-poor land reform with a climate change agenda in Myanmar - Christine Anderson, Gina Alvarado, Mark West (Landesa)
3. IFAD-ILC Strategic Partnership: guiding investment through a framework linking tenure security and climate change adaptation in Sub-Saharan Africa: a joint initiative conducted by Natural Justice, the International Land Coalition (ILC) and the International Fund for Agriculture

Development (IFAD) from June 2019 to May 2020 in four sub-Saharan countries: Malawi, Madagascar, and Cameroon . The overall objective of this joint initiative was to demonstrate the correlation between secure tenure rights and ability, and the likelihood to uptake climate change adaptation actions, with a strong focus on consultative processes supported by multi-stakeholder platforms and dialogue with strategic stakeholders to foster collaboration - Jimmy Gaudin (ILC/IFAD); Robert Kibugi (Natural Justice)

4. Climate change mitigation and LSLAs: the role of land-related institutional settings for local communities: The paper explores the main determinants of 'green' investments, in particular Large-Scale Land Acquisitions, and the influence of land-related institutional settings in enabling local and indigenous communities to benefit from the 'green' occurrence of these investment - Sara Balestri (Catholic University of the Sacred Heart Milan, Italy).

❖ **Parallel Session 2: Community Rights to Forest Lands: What are the key conditions for success?**

Organizers: Tropenbos International, IUCN Netherlands Committee & Milieudefensie

Over the last couple of decades, many governments have devolved collective rights and control over forest lands to local communities and Indigenous Peoples. The motivations for doing so might differ; local control is often considered an important incentive to invest in sustainable natural resource management, leading to local economic development as well as conservation objectives. In other cases, the recognition of community rights is seen as a key requirement for self-determination and to strengthen the communities' control over the lands that hold religious or cultural value. Now is a good time to reflect on the experiences so far: How are these reforms contributing to the desired outcomes, and what are barriers and conditions? This session will discuss both the theory and practice behind the devolution of rights to communities. Tropenbos International, IUCN Netherlands Committee and Milieudefensie conducted a multi-country review of the experiences with community rights, and the key conditions and barriers to success. We have completed this review in 10 countries and look forward to sharing and discussing the results with LANDac participants.

PhD Session

Organisers: Dr. Gemma van der Haar (Wageningen University) and Dominique Schmid (visiting PhD candidate, Utrecht University)

Chair: Dr. Gemma van der Haar

In this session, four PhD candidates from the LANDac PhD network will present their work in progress. The session is organised in four blocks, in which each author will first present their work in 15 minutes, then, 10 minutes are reserved for questions and comments from the paper's discussant, followed by a 10 minutes' open discussion with the entire audience. The session is open to everyone.

Session overview:

10:00 – 10:10 Welcoming of participants and introduction
10:10 – 11:20 Presentations 1 and 2
11:20 – 11:40 Break
11:40 – 12:50 Presentations 3 and 4
12:50 – 13:00 Closing

- **Presentation 1** (10:10 - 10:45 AM) Playing soft or playing strong? Civil society's advocacy strategies in mining investments in Kenya
Author: Selma Zijlstra, Radboud University Nijmegen
Discussant: Dr Kei Otsuki, Utrecht University
- **Presentation 2** (10:45 - 11:20 AM) Are We Not More Valuable Than Cows? – Understanding Variation in Land Governance Amongst Twa in Burundi
Author: Ladd Serwat, University of Sussex
Discussant: Lisa Trogisch, Wageningen University
- **Presentation 3** (11:40AM - 12:15PM) Urban land use efficiency in Ethiopia: an assessment of land lease policy effectiveness
Author: Nesru H. Koroso, University of Twente
Discussant: Dr Femke van Noorloos, Utrecht University
- **Presentation 4** (12:15 - 12:50PM) Forest Carbon Projects in the Global South: Green but Mean?
Author: Dominique Schmid, Universitat Pompeu Fabra / Utrecht University
Discussant: Dr Robert Fletcher, Wageningen University

Download the full programme for the PhD session [here](#).

Day 3 – Wednesday 1st July

Webinar**Covid-19 Pandemic and Land Governance**

Organisers: LANDac, the LANDdialogue and the Land Portal Foundation

Moderation: dr Guus van Westen (Utrecht University and LANDac)

In this webinar, LANDac, the LANDdialogue and the Land Portal Foundation will take stock of the emerging insights on the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on land rights so far and discuss concerns about impacts expected for the mid-to-long term on equitable and sustainable land governance. The discussion will build on previous efforts of the broader land governance community, including the Quick-scan Survey on the COVID-19 crisis by LANDac and the LANDdialogue, insights shared over the past few weeks by the LANDac fellows from the Professional Learning Programme and the webinar and discussion series 'Land Rights Implications of COVID-19' by the Land Portal Foundation and its partners.

Panellists:

- Alke Gijrath, facilitator LANDdialogue
- Fridah Githuku, executive director GROOTS Kenya and LANDac fellow
- Laura Meggiolaro, team leader at the Land Portal Foundation
- Jimmy Ochom, Land Rights Coordinator at Oxfam in Uganda

Parallel Sessions

- ❖ **Parallel session 1:** Towards new realities: Monitoring land-based investments before, during and after COVID-19

Organisers: LANDac Fellowship

Moderation: Romy Santpoort, LANDac and Shared Value Foundation

During the past year, a community of practice that includes eleven LANDac fellows have conducted research into different land-based investments and their impacts on local communities across sub-Saharan Africa. Their aim was to strengthen the position of local communities to negotiate for their interests. From September 2019 onwards, the LANDac fellows conducted bottom-up research on mining companies in Sudan, special economic zones in Senegal, large agriculture investments in Mozambique, community land in Kenya, highways and real estate in Uganda and Dutch flower investments in Ethiopia, with special attention to women's (land) rights.

During this session at the LANDac online encounter, LANDac fellows will reflect on the past turbulent year and share and discuss their lessons learned from conducting bottom-up research and exchanging their findings with fellow colleagues across the region. Furthermore, they will reflect on the present and future challenges and opportunities for more inclusive land governance now COVID-19 will be part of land and livelihoods across sub-Saharan Africa.

Panellists:

- Bethelehem Fikre Beyene, Coordinator Ethiopian Netherlands Business Association
- Elhadji Faye, Program Coordinator, Enda Pronat Senegal
- Emilinah Namaganda, PhD candidate Utrecht University, Inside the Investment Frontier programme
- Fridah Githuku, Executive Director, GROOTS Kenya
- Hiwot Tadesse, Agricultural Value Chain Facilitator, Resilience BV Ethiopia
- James Wangu, PhD candidate Utrecht University, Follow the Food Programme
- Junior Alves Sebbanja, Physical Planner ACTogether Uganda
- Nzira de Deus, Executive Director, Fórum Mulher
- Salaheldin Abukashawa, Program Manager, ISTIDAMA Centre for Land and Environmental Governance
- Senait Getahun Worku, PhD candidate Utrecht University, Follow the Food programme
- Teddy Kisembo, Researcher, Urban Action Lab Makerere University

❖ **Parallel session 2:** Mitigation of GHG-Emissions through Effective Peatland Management: Opportunities, Challenges & Solutions

Organisers: Land Component of the bilateral Project: German-Ukrainian Agricultural Policy Dialogue, implemented by: BVVG German AgriForest Privatisation Agency.

Moderation: Katja Dells, Representative of the Land Component of the “German-Ukrainian Agricultural Policy Dialogue”.

Peatlands and organic soils contain 30 percent of the world’s soil carbon while covering only 3 percent of the Earth’s land area. They are the largest natural terrestrial carbon store, sequestering 0.37 giga-tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO₂) a year and therewith storing more carbon than all other vegetation types in the world combined. Aside of that, intact peatlands provide additional ecosystem services such as water regulation and biodiversity conservation. However, peatlands that are utilized for agriculture, grazing, peat mining and forestry are the source of almost 6 percent of anthropogenic CO₂-emissions (including emissions from peat fires), which represents almost 25 percent of emissions from the entire LULUCF (Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry) sector. Once the peat carbon is lost, the losses are virtually irreversible. Peatland protection and restoration can therefore bring significant emissions reductions. Effective land management policies embedded in a countrywide climate change strategy can support the county’s efforts to mitigate GHG-mitigation in the LULUCF sector.

The session serves as platform to discuss the challenges and opportunities related to peatland protection and restoration with regard not only to ecological and climate change issues but also to possible economic benefits and constraints. A focus lies on the use of (rewetted) peatlands for paludiculture, the adaptation of management practices on peatland that cannot be rewetted and other alternative uses of peatland areas that provide economic benefits to local communities while supporting climate change mitigation objectives. Another important point of discussion to highlight during the panel will be the question of financing climate- and environment-friendly peatland management considering possible opportunity costs that might

occur for the local communities when implementing necessary land use changes. In this context, the availability of different financing mechanisms (compliance market, voluntary market, other sources) will be discussed.

❖ **Parallel session 3: Monitoring, Managing and Protecting the Integrity of Land Governance Systems, Land Registration and Land Claims from Climate Change Effects Using Blockchain Technology**

Organisers: John Dean Markunas, Power of Chain Consultancy (PoC) LLC; Gerard Dache, Government Blockchain Association (GBA); Jo Bronckers, Foundation for the International Blockchain and Real Estate Expertise (FIBREE).

Moderation: John Dean Markunas, Principle Consultant, Power of Chain Consultancy (PoC) LLC

According to a 2018 U.N. climate report, the world has only about 12 years to reduce carbon emissions and avoid the worst impacts of climate change affecting many aspects of earth's ecosphere including effects on property ownership, potential of land claims based on the changing nature of boundary lines and the subsequent changes in land administration policies and implementation of such policies and regulations. Climate change as it relates to land, property ownership, zoning, construction, agriculture and other sectors are all being affected. These changes are bringing about risks we haven't considered before. They will affect the attitudes of global real estate investment by the private sector and influence financing policies and loan underwriting for home ownership, home improvements and residential and commercial real estate development by both private and public institutions.

One of the biggest dangers of climate change is the displacement of world citizens and business from rising seas, flooding, and weather changes affecting practical and traditional land uses and land use policies. Climate change as it relates to land will also open up a Pandora's Box of potential fraud and corruption. Blockchain, the technology behind cryptocurrencies like bitcoin, is being discussed as one of the latest solutions to combat climate change and mitigate risks. There's a lot of hype about this new technology and its ability to aggregate data and facilitate data analytics to the point where it will "solve climate change."

Only two years ago there was little global discussion about blockchain and climate change. Increasingly we are seeing conferences, panels, workshops and open discussion on how blockchain could help mitigate climate change and subsequently create new improvements in land registration systems and land administration policies to counteract the onslaught of climate change and the challenges it will bring. Can blockchain technology "solve climate change"? Can it mitigate risks? The proposed session will dynamically address all of the issues related to blockchain, climate change and the potential of this new technology to help us respond and adapt to a new environment brought upon by climate change.

Panellists:

- Jo Bronckers, Co-founder and Board Director, Foundation for International Real Estate Expertise (FIBREE).
- Ben Elders, Global Director of Valuation at RICS (Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors)

- Chami Akmeemana, CEO at Convergence.Tech
- Nura Jibo, CEO of Faiyus Construction Consultants Limited

Day 4 – Thursday 2nd July

Webinar

The nexus of land governance and climate change adaptation in relation to urban tenure

Organisers: ITC University of Twente and The Land Portal Foundation

Moderation: Prof dr Richard Sliuzas, Professor of Urban Planning for Disaster Risk Reduction, ITC University of Twente

Urban development, including informal settlements, in areas that are already disaster prone are an increasing challenge for cities and communities. Climate adaptation is needed, but may be used as an excuse for evictions to redevelop sites in a more climate-proof manner, leading to ‘climate gentrification’ and displacement of the poor. Nature-based solutions to climate change, such as increasing green spaces, may increase property values, but the question of who benefits from these initiatives arises. How can the side effects of climate interventions that can lead to inequality, such as increase in value, be avoided? This webinar will address transparency and accountability in these processes. It will explore the alignment of policy processes with climate adaptation plans that can easily create conflict, looking at inclusivity and equity in processes and in outcomes.

Panellists:

- Dr Diana Reckien, Associate Professor at the Department of Urban and Regional Planning and Geo-Information Management, ITC University of Twente
- Dr Shuaib Lwasa, Associate Professor at the Department of Geography Geoinformatics and Climatic Sciences, Makerere University
- Dr Kei Otsuki, Associate Professor at the Department of Human Geography and Spatial Planning, Utrecht University
- Prof dr Jaap Zevenbergen, Professor in Land Administration Systems, ITC University of Twente

Parallel Sessions

- ❖ **Parallel Session 1:** Redirecting investments: Exploring and changing food communication regimes to create recognition for farmer-led irrigation development & urban agriculture in Africa’s expanding cities

Organisers: Utrecht University and partners

In global research-policy debates on food in Africa, the focus is on the question whether Africa can feed itself, and whether existing smallholder-based food systems have enough potential to meet the growing demand in Africa's expanding cities. With the growth of population and cities in Africa, and the expansion of food markets, the informal existence and expansion of farmer-led irrigation development and urban agriculture is now receiving (re)newed attention among researchers and policy makers. The presence of cultivated fields in and around cities, and the use of (polluted) water flows by farmers and urban dwellers, itself is nothing new – there are some well-known examples in Africa such as Zona Verde (Green Zone) in Maputo – but until recently this was not seen as something worthy to discuss or promote. The dominant view shared among experts and policy makers is that farmer-led irrigation development and urban agriculture is something 'bad' in development. However, it provides for food benefits and livelihood opportunities for relatively poor people, and they can be considered to represent relatively resilient 'food systems'. With the objective to build a dialogue among researchers and experts in different fields of expertise (agriculture, urban planning, health etc.), and support alternative representations of farmer-led irrigation development and urban agriculture in Africa, we explore in this panel the important issue of food communication.

This dialogue is a continuation of the Online Expert Meeting of 12 May 2020, and an event of the [UGlobe project](#) 'Food sovereignty in the making: How should agricultural experts and urban planners respond to farmer-led irrigation development & urban agriculture in Africa?'

❖ **Parallel Session 2: Why feelings matter when it comes to measuring tenure security**

Organisers: Prindex

Property rights are essential to a country's social and economic development. Ensuring people are not only secure in their rights to their homes and land under the law, but also that they feel secure, is essential to people's wellbeing. Both these aspects are reflected in Sustainable Development Goal 1, which includes tenure security as an indicator to measure progress toward ending poverty in all its forms everywhere.

Why do feelings matter when it comes to tenure security? People's own perceptions of their situation largely determines how they behave. For example, if people feel secure in their property rights, they are more likely to invest productively, knowing they stand to reap the benefits. Insecurity can have the opposite effect: why invest resources in land you might lose? Understanding the contours of these perceptions - who feels insecure and why - can tell us how property rights are working in practice.

Prindex, a joint initiative of the Global Land Alliance and Overseas Development Institute, is the world's first global survey measuring perceptions of tenure security. Its country level datasets are rigorous, internationally comparable, and demographically representative. They are a resource that researchers, policymakers, and land rights advocates can use to better understand how property rights are working in practice and how insecurity can be addressed.

Having previously published datasets for 33 countries, Prindex is now preparing to launch its full global dataset of 140+ countries in the middle of July. Ahead of the global launch, Prindex is hosting an online event for researchers, policy makers, and land experts. This event will include:

- A dive into what Prindex data will be available in July and how it can be used to inform policy making.
- Preliminary findings from the Prindex global dataset and a sneak peek at the data for a few countries.
- A discussion on upcoming research agendas and how Prindex data might usefully contribute to these.

Speakers:

- **Anna Lock - Co-Director of Prindex and Head of the Agricultural Development and Policy Programme at the Overseas Development Institute.** Anna Locke is a Director of the UK-based Overseas Development Institute and Head of the Agricultural Development and Policy Programme. She joined ODI in July 2011 after having worked for 19 years in development, 12 of which were in Mozambique. Her focus in recent years has been on land governance and large-scale investment, biofuels and food security.
- **Malcolm Childress - Co-Director of Prindex and Co-Executive Director of the Global Land Alliance.** Malcolm Childress is a multi-disciplinary land resources specialist with 25 years of global experience, including urban and rural property rights, and strategy for managing critical global ecosystems. His focus areas include land policy and governance, land markets, land registration, property taxation, cadastral systems and spatial planning. Before co-founding Land Alliance, he was a Sr. Land Administration Specialist in the World Bank.
- **Prof dr Jaap Zevenbergen - Professor in Land Administration Systems, ITC University of Twente.**
- **Denys Nizalov - Senior Land Governance Adviser at Prindex and Senior Lecturer in Economics, De Montfort University.**

Day 5 – Friday 3rd July

Closing Panel & Discussion

Moderation: Prof dr Richard Sliuzas (ITC, University of Twente)

Panellists: Prof dr Annelies Zoomers (Utrecht University), Michael Rice (Both ENDS), Salaheldin Abukashawa (ISTIDAMA Centre for Land and Environmental Governance and LANDac fellow) and dr Alda Salomão, Centro Terra Viva (CTV).

In the closing panel, the panellists will reflect on the main the takeaways of the LANDac Online Encounter 2020 and the main challenges for the land governance community that we might face in the coming year(s).