

ALPC SESSION II

Implementing the AU Declaration on Land Issues and Challenges in Africa

World Bank Conference 2018

Introduction

Land is central to ending poverty and inequality with agriculture estimated to generate 10% of GDP in low and middle income countries and employing 45% of the total labour force in formal and informal sectors. Secure tenure rights to land is strongly linked to peace and security; social cohesion, conservation of natural resources and mitigation of the negative impact of climate change. Land Governance enables efficient and effective appropriation and use of land, regulating land concentration, fragmentation and expropriation and through this guaranteeing tenure security in rural and urban areas; and enhances productive use of land. Effective national, regional and global land monitoring is central to ensuring that changes in land governance result in improved conditions and sustainable development opportunities for all, especially for vulnerable groups and those living in poverty. The Framework and Guidelines on land policy in Africa (F&G) is anchored in the continental aspirations that ‘equitable access to land, secure land tenure rights, gender equity, improved governance in the land sector and reduction of land related conflicts’, are fundamental aspirations of the African people as together they pave the way to secure livelihoods and prosperity.

The African Land Policy Centre (ALPC, formerly LPI) has been leading the implementation of the AU Declaration on Land Issues and Challenges which is anchored on the F&G. This is done through a series of projects and initiatives:

- Establishing the appropriate institutional mechanisms for implementation through the LPI Secretariat and now the ALPC.
- Monitoring and Evaluation of Land Governance in Africa (MELA) at country level
- Integrating land issues in National Agricultural Investment Plans
- Network of Excellence on Land Governance in Africa (NELGA)
- Championing the AU commitment on 30 percent campaign for documented land rights for African women.

African Land Policy Centre - Establishing appropriate institutional mechanisms for implementation

The African Land Policy Centre (ALPC) was launched officially in November 2017 as the successor institution to the Land Policy Initiative (LPI) Secretariat, which functioned for eleven years under the tripartite consortium of the African Union (AU), the African Development Bank (AFDB) and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). The ALPC will provide leadership, coordination, build partnerships and promote policy advocacy in the implementation of the AU Declaration on Land and in support of member states. The ALPC is taking off from where the LPI left to drive the continental agenda on land and continue with on-going initiatives such as the MELA, to enhance better and inclusive governance of land in Africa as part of the process for the effective development of rural economy and increasing agricultural productivity.

The session will brief conference participants on the transition from LPI to ALPC and what the implications for the Land Policy Initiative will be.

Monitoring and Evaluation of Land governance in Africa (MELA) at country level

The need for Africa to generate its own land data to make policy decisions, better monitor and track economic and social targets, including the goals and objectives of Agenda 2063 cannot be overemphasized more. The F&G noted that land policies at country level have been prepared in the absence of adequate baseline data on the conditions of land as an integrated political, economic and social system. It further acknowledges that in many African countries land data are still manually operated and inaccurately recorded while efforts to put together efficient land information systems have been hampered by lack of adequate resources and limited uptake of modern data technology.

To strengthen production and access to land data and facilitate tracking of progress in enhancing good land governance in the continent, AU-LPI launched in 2017 a joint pilot partnership project with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) on Monitoring and Evaluation of Land governance in Africa (MELA) - a pilot project covering 12 African countries to track progress in the development and implementation of good land governance in the continent.

The session will aim to share the broader MELA methodology/framework as well as lessons learnt from one of the pilot countries in tracking the progress made in the implementation of the AU declaration on land issues and challenges in Africa – the case of Madagascar.

Championing 30 percent campaign for documented land rights for women

Despite the substantial contribution of women to agriculture and food production, women are disadvantaged in terms of access, control and ownership. While available data does not allow for a nuanced assessment of the current status of women's land tenure security in Africa, literature indicates the gender gap across the bundle of rights are significant and vary considerably across African countries. Moreover, increased demand for land exacerbate women's land related vulnerabilities. Women's rights or interests in land are often threatened by broader dynamics such as swift population growth, degradation of agricultural lands, rapid urbanization, climate change and irresponsible large scale land based investments.

As gender is often a determinant of tenure security, gender and women's land rights issues have been at the core of the African Land Policy Centre's (formerly the Land Policy Initiative) engagement for the past decade. The African Union Specialized Technical

Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Environment (STC) in its decision in 2015 called on Member States to allocate at least 30 percent of documented land rights to women and to improve the rights of women to land through legislative and other mechanisms. ALPC led advocacy efforts also resulted in the 2017 African Union decision that reinforced the 30 percent target. The 2017 decision urges Member States to review land policies and programmes to facilitate the achievement of the 30 percent target for women's documented land rights by 2025.

Translating the 30 percent commitment into practice requires nuanced understanding of the related challenges and calls for targeted interventions at many levels. It requires complimentary policies, gender-equitable laws, reliable data, institutional capacity and community capabilities. The effectiveness of each of these interventions hinge in great part on the political and public will of states.

The session will focus on the 30 percent campaign and what is needed to achieve it, concentrating on women's land tenure security.

Integrating land issues in National Agricultural Investment Plans

In line with the Ten Year Implementation Plan for Agenda 2063, the ALPC has been leading efforts to address land governance challenges in order to modernize agriculture for increased productivity and production (AU Goal 5). In particular, the ALPC has been supporting efforts of Member States to align the National Agriculture Investment Plans (NAIPs) to targets of the 2014 Malabo Declaration on Agriculture. The pilot project on mainstreaming land governance in the NAIPs of the Comprehensive African Agriculture Development programme (CAAD/NAIP) was developed in line with recommendations to conduct the project in countries at various stages of CAADP implementation in order to draw useful lessons and promising practices and develop capacity of Member States. The project is being implemented in Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Madagascar, Malawi, Rwanda and Tanzania.

The session will highlight the results achieved in one Member State (Tanzania) highlighting issues such as evidence generated, multi-stakeholder platforms, business plans and resource requirements.

Strengthening capacities for land governance in Africa: The Network of Excellence on Land Governance in Africa ("NELGA")

In 2006, the African Union (AU) established the Land Policy Initiative (LPI), thereby placing emphasis on the urgency of developing land policies and strengthening land governance in Africa. Through its work, the LPI seeks to build synergies with global initiatives such as the Voluntary guidelines on the responsible tenure of land, fisheries and forests (VGGT). Although a growing number of countries show political will to realize these initiatives, their implementation at country level are still at the early stages. Many countries have inadequate knowledge, data, human and institutional capacities required to develop, implement and monitor effective land policies. Building on this momentum, the AU Land Policy Initiative (LPI), the Government of Germany (through BMZ and GIZ), and the World Bank established jointly the "Network of Excellence on Land Governance in Africa" (NELGA) under the new BMZ/GIZ program on "Strengthening Capacities for Land Governance in Africa (SLGA). SLGA aims to contribute to the implementation of the AU agenda on land as outlined in the AU Declaration on Land by (i) establishing a "Network of Excellence on Land Governance in Africa" (NELGA); (ii) integrating land policy into country strategies and monitoring its

implementation, (iii) mainstreaming innovative approaches and developing scalable approaches to address key land policy constraints, and (iv) enhancing training, research and operational capacities within the land management and land governance sector in Africa.

The session will highlight progress made in the NELGA programme.

The session is organized as follows.

Date: Wednesday 21 March 2018

Time: 2.00 – 3.30 pm

Venue: Preston Auditorium

Chair: Prof Paul Tchawa

Topic	Speaker(s)
Briefing on ALPC	Godfrey Bahigwa and Joan Kagwanja
Monitoring and Evaluation of Land Governance Ghebru and in Africa (MELA)	Jean Ousmane Camara , Hosaena Joan Kagwanja
Network of Excellence on Land Governance in Kariuki Africa (NELGA)	Agnes Mwasumbi and Judy
Integrating land in National Agricultural Investment	Moses Kusiluka and Joan Kagwanja
Championing the 30 percent campaign for Documented land rights for African women	Hirut Girma

Methodology:

Presenters will make PowerPoint presentations and discussions will follow the regular format of the conference and will aim to provide evidence or updates in the implementation of the various projects.

The session chair will moderate the timing of various presentations.