Brief

The NELGA Knowledge Exchange Forum is a platform that brings together land specialists, policymakers, practitioners, students, and other stakeholders in Africa's land governance field. Its primary objective is to facilitate sharing of information, ideas, and best practices pertinent to African land administration.

This edition of the NEX focuses on integrating land rights into the National Agricultural Investment Plans.

Background

To ensure agriculture receives the attention it deserves, the African Union (AU) and its Member States have embarked on various continental and national initiatives. In 2003, the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) was adopted, followed by the Malabo Declaration in 2014. To implement these, the *CAADP Implementation Guidelines* and a toolkit for National *Agriculture Investment Plans (NAIP)* were developed. Beyond that, the continent adopted the AU Agenda on Land, specifically to address land tenure issues.

For effective monitoring, Member States adopted the Biennial Review as a reporting exercise to track the implementation of both CAADP and the Malabo Declaration.

The 3rd Biennial Review report of 2021 takes into consideration indicators of relevance to land, such as the proportion of farm households with ownership or secure land rights and the share of agricultural land under sustainable land management practices. The report includes significant incremental changes, like the implementation of specific AU decisions for agricultural transformation on the continent. A key issue is that complex dualistic land systems, specifically those related to communal and individual titled land, are not fully considered. These systems were not adequately restructured after the end of colonialism and thus continue to generate conflict.

This webinar will showcase best practices for integrating land governance and ensuring secure and fair land access in agricultural investments and NAIP processes by presenting findings from seven African countries: Cameroon, Ethiopia, Egypt, Ghana, Namibia, Tanzania and Zambia where we carried both intensive literature review and stakeholder interviews complemented with interviews with officials at the continental level.

Access to land in many African countries varies significantly in different contexts, and therefore, by understanding what works to improve fair and secure access for most of the people and shedding light on the successes, we can amplify their up-scaling.

In line with the goal of securing land tenure and ownership for vulnerable groups, the webinar will discuss how the AUC and other stakeholders may ensure that international guidelines and frameworks are domesticated in country NAIPs, and other policies and legislation and the progress of domestication need to be monitored and evaluated. For example, to support the domestication of such guidelines and frameworks, several best practices exist for ensuring that (i) secure land tenure and ownership are at the forefront of agricultural development; (ii) that countries are progressing in implementing land tenure/ownership programmes that protect vulnerable populations; and (iii) that programmes are adequately monitored, evaluated, and reported on, both within Member States and at the AU level.

Finally, the webinar will provide an overview and recommendations on the training needed to develop capacity among land and agricultural stakeholders for integrating secure and fair access to land (tenure/ownership) into NAIPs. Accordingly, it identifies (i) important stakeholders who require capacity development; (ii) key content areas to be addressed by capacity development, including specific topics for specific stakeholders; (iii) different types and processes of capacity development; and (iv) training and research organisations that can provide capacity development, especially those in the Network of Excellence on Land Governance in Africa (NELGA).

Key questions

- 1. To what extent is land governance addressed in ongoing National Agriculture Investment Plan (NAIP)? What is the impact of NAIP implementation on land governance in Africa?
- 2. How inclusive is the NAIP formulation and implementation processes? Does it fully integrate fair and secure land ownership rights of men and women, Indigenous Peoples and the private sector?
- 3. What capacity development is needed within land administration bodies and the ministry of agriculture to integrate measures for secure and fair land ownership rights into NAIPs?

Details:

Date: October 19th, 2023

Time: 14:00 - 15:15 (EAT)

Venue: Virtual (MS Teams)

Speakers:

Emmanuel Sulle, PhD

Assistant Professor & Director of Research
Aga Khan University, Tanzania
Leading Scholar in Agrarian Studies and Climate Change Research

Diane Tapimali

Researcher, Cameroon

To participate and receive an invitation, please send a request to info@nelga.org

Reference knowledge materials

National Agriculture Investment Plan

AU 2003 Maputo Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security

Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth

Launch of the 3RD CAADP Biennial Review Report

Biennial Review (BR)

Africa Union Land Governance Strategy

AU Declaration on Land Issues and Challenges: A Review of Progress Made

The African Continental Free Trade Agreement