



**CONCEPT NOTE**  
**CLPA 2025 PRE - EVENT**  
**November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**Title: Strengthening Partnerships to promote Inclusive Land Reforms and Advance Land Justice & Reparations in Africa - Taking Forward Lessons from previous CLPAs and the Global Land Forum, 2025.**

**Co-conveners**

- The African Union Commission, through the Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment (DARBE)
- African Land Policy Centre (ALPC)
- Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)
- The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- The International Land Coalition (ILC)
- Welthungerhilfe (WHH)
- The Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO)
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ)
- OXFAM
- International Development Law Organization (IDLO)
- The Agence Française de Développement (AFD)/Le Comité Technique Foncier et Développement

**Abstract**

The CLPA 2023 'Call for action' prepared by the group of development partners recommended as the first action point to '*ensure better coordination by different technical and development partners by working jointly together through concerted actions and programs*'. The call for action also highlighted the need for development partners to better build on complementary roles and mandates to do more and better together.

The need for strong coordination between development partners is especially relevant in the light of the increasing commitment from African governments to engage in inclusive land reform processes and champion the quest for land justice, reparations and restitution for historical land injustices. Similarly, civil society organizations and communities across Africa have emphasized the vital need to unify their voices in shaping land policy development, ensuring that reforms authentically address the broader development needs of the people and foster justice. Today, more than 25 countries in Africa are involved in some stage of land policy and/or law reform, and the request from countries for development partners to accompany these processes based on inclusive methodologies – mainly by the Framework and Guidelines for Land Policy in Africa (F&G) and Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests (VGGT) - are growing.

As national governments are driving the reform agenda, several partners including FAO, RVO, ILC, WHH, GIZ, ALPC, AFDB, IGAD and OXFAM are supporting multi-stakeholder platforms on land (MSPs) to encourage inclusive land reforms in line with the F&G and the VGGT and accelerate the recognition of land tenure rights and promote people-centred land governance. In many countries, such MSPs are composed of both state, non-state actors and strategic development partners, offering a promising space for inclusive dialogues around land reforms, including addressing core themes such as land tenure and equity.



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Whereas in some specific countries, development partners have found ways to join forces to support the ongoing land reforms in a coordinated way, in most cases, mandated ministries lack the capacities to coordinate partners' interventions to land policy reform effectively. This creates confusion and overlapping initiatives at the country level, often with the same partners.

This session addresses how strategic partnerships can help partners to support inclusive land reforms and advance land justice, reparations and restitution in a coordinated way, particularly in the context of the shifting geopolitical and economic landscape. *How do we move away from the project silos towards more joint efforts to maximize impact and sustainability of our interventions at country level? How can we help to ensure that global commitments to collaborate trickle down to the national level? How do we build our interventions to support governments to be in the driver's seat of inclusive land reforms and avoid creating parallel processes/mechanisms? How do we move from competition to collaboration via better leveraging of our complementary roles and mandates? How do we collectively adapt and decolonize funding models in a context of shrinking aid?*

The session will allow for capitalization and discussion on concrete in-country examples to share experiences and lessons learnt. It will further draw lessons from the outcomes of previous CLPAs, and the Global Land Forum 2025 and align this with the African Union's 2025 Theme of the Year: Land Governance, Justice, and Reparations for Africans and the African Diaspora.

The session will also reflect on the opportunities and challenges for multi-stakeholder platforms and mechanisms (MSPs) to influence policies and their implementation.

Finally, the session will discuss the challenges for development partners to support land reform processes in the light of the current global trends in the sector, including opportunities to leverage funding for these processes by linking land to other sectoral initiatives.

### **Overall objective of the pre-event**

Spark discussion about and share experience from building strategic partnerships for coordinated actions to support inclusive and justice-oriented land reform and implementation in Africa.

### **Specific objectives**

1. Discuss experiences and lessons learnt from grassroots movements, civil society organizations, government actors and development partners coordination groups in support of inclusive land reform and land justice processes at country level.
2. Discuss the opportunities and challenges for MSPs to support in land reforms and their implementation.
3. Showcase concrete ideas, interventions and action points for improving coordination and support for land reform and justice systems at the country level.
4. Discuss the challenges for development partners to support justice-oriented land reform processes considering the current global trends in the sector, including opportunities to leverage funding for these processes by linking land to other sectoral initiatives.
5. Facilitate dialogue between development partners, grassroots and national networks on innovative and sustainable partnership models and financing mechanisms for land governance and engage donors in co-creating funding pathways that could support decolonial, community-led land governance initiatives.
6. Identify opportunities for collaboration to advance the outcomes of the CLPA 2025 and the dialogue with grassroots and community networks.



### Expected outcomes

1. Experiences and lessons learnt from in-country coordination groups to support land reforms are shared.
2. Opportunities and challenges for MSPs to support inclusive and justice-oriented land reform processes and their implementation are identified.
3. Concrete ideas and action points for improving coordination and support for land reform at the country level are developed.
4. The role of development partners in supporting land reform processes and opportunities to leverage funding by linking land to other sectoral initiatives are discussed.
5. Dialogue between development partners, grassroots and national networks on innovative and sustainable partnership models and financing mechanisms for land governance is facilitated.
6. Opportunities for collaboration to advance the outcomes of the CLPA 2025 and the dialogue with grassroots and community networks are identified.

**Target audience:** The event aims at bringing together around 60 participants, including Development Partners, representatives of multi-stakeholder platforms on land, governments, NGOs, CSOs, grassroots' organizations and international organizations.

### Structure of the presentation.

**Overall moderation:** Ward Anseeuw, Lead of the FAO Land Tenure Team and Chair of the Global Donor Working Group on Land.

<p><b>OPENING:</b> 9.00 - 9.20</p>	<p>Welcome and presentation of the agenda:          Opening Remarks: Janet Edeme, Africa Union          Opening Remarks: Joan Kagwanja, ALPC</p>	<p>Overall moderator          Ward Anseeuw, Senior          Land Tenure Officer · FAO</p>
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<p><b>SESSION 1: 9.20 - 11.00</b> <b>Inclusive land reforms</b></p> <p><i>ROUNDTABLE</i></p>	<p>Overview of the ongoing VGGT/F&amp;G compliant land reform processes in Africa, the Role of MSPs and need for strategic partnerships to support these land reforms (10 min)</p> <p><b>Niger:</b> Capitalizing on 8 years' experience of a national donor working group supporting the land policy reform</p> <p><b>Chad:</b> Supporting an inclusive land reform through joint programming: RVO-FAO-OXFAM-KADASTER INTERNATIONAL</p> <p><b>Guinea-Conakry:</b> Contribution of the multi-stakeholder platform on land governance to the development of the agricultural and national land policies in Guinea</p> <p>Debate</p>	<p>Ingeborg Gaarde, Land Tenure Officer, FAO and Anna Scriber, Program coordinator WHH</p> <p>Dr Sani, Mamadou Abdou Gaoh or CSO/Govt speaker (GIZ to confirm)</p> <p>President of the multi-stakeholder committee in charge of the land reform</p> <p>Macky Bah, Executive Director of the Association Cooperation et de Recherche pour le Développement (ACORD) in Guinea.</p>
<p><b>Coffee break: 11.00 - 11.30</b></p>		
<p><b>SESSION 2: 11.30 - 12.50</b></p> <p><i>ROUNDTABLE</i></p> <p><b>Challenges</b> related to CSO-Government collaboration in land policy reform processes</p>	<p><b>Uganda:</b> From technical consultations towards official endorsement: Stakeholder buy-in and barriers in the process</p> <p><b>Ethiopia:</b> Challenges faced on the pathway towards a national land reform</p> <p><b>Mozambique</b> Experience from CSO participation in the land policy reform</p> <p><b>Tanzania:</b> Africa Rural women farmers forum as an example of rural women engaging from grassroot region to regional level</p> <p>Debate</p>	<p>Harrison Irumba, Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development Uganda</p> <p>Dr. Mellese Damtie, Addis Ababa University, LfL MAP</p> <p>Borges Chivambo, Centro Terra Viva (CTV) Mozambique</p> <p>EVA DAUDI – Chairperson Africa Kilimanjaro Women Farmers Forum</p>
<p><b>12.50 - 13.00</b> Wrap up of the morning session</p>		<p>Overall moderator</p>



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<b>Lunch + group photo: 13-17:00</b>		Overall moderator Ward Anseeuw, Senior Land Tenure Officer · FAO
<b>14.00 - 14.05</b> Opening remarks and agenda setting	Agenda setting for the afternoon session	Eva Maria, ILC Regional Coordinator, Africa
<b>14:05-14:15</b> Overview of partners' strategic focus areas, areas of complementarities and impact of joint implementation efforts	Presentation highlighting collective priorities as partners including our respective efforts and best practices in advancing people centred land governance, land justice, and reparations for African communities.  Reflection presenting background paper on reparations-colonialism-inequality.	Joselyn Birirwa, IGAD Head of Mission to the Republic of Uganda, Gender and Land Expert/ Acting Coordinator, Land Governance Programme, Agriculture and Environment Division  Jeffrey Maganya, Head of Programmes, Oxfam in Africa.

<p><b>AFTERNOON SESSION 3: 14.15 - 15.45:</b></p> <p><b>'Land café':</b></p> <p>Round 1: Rotational Thematic conversations with pre-identified community partners and national networks (40 minutes)</p> <p>Interactive session for feedback (10 minutes)</p>	<p><u>Round 1: Grassroots presentations/local cases</u></p> <p>Climate-Resilience, Agriculture and Food Systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blanco Kiyongo, LJP-DRC.</li> <li>• El Hadj Thierno Cissé. CNCR, Senegal</li> <li>• James M Yarsiah, MAP, Liberia.</li> </ul> <p>Land Governance and Sustainable Resource Management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Makathimo Mwenda, LDGI, Kenya.</li> <li>• Joselyn Birigwa, IGAD, Uganda.</li> <li>• Dramane Orou Guetido Malam, ANOPER, Benin.</li> </ul> <p>Gender Justice and Land Rights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ndiouk Mbaye, S4HL Senegal</li> <li>• Janet Lapat, UCOBAC</li> <li>• Barbara Kilei, IDLO</li> <li>• Oxfam/ AKWOLF</li> </ul>	<p>Moderated by: Jane Njeri Mwangi &amp; Paul Vingi, Oxfam)</p>
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<p><b>SESSION 4: 15.45 - 16.35</b></p> <p><b>Panel 1 &amp; 2</b></p> <p><b>Innovative and Transformative Land Governance funding and partnerships models (40 minutes)</b></p> <p><b>Interactive session Q &amp;A (10 minutes)</b></p>	<p>Donor and Development Actors Discussion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General feedback from donors on the presentations from grassroots organizations during the “Land Cafe”</li> <li>• Presentation on donor priorities and emerging opportunities</li> <li>• In a context of constrained development financing, how can donors and development partners co-create equitable, locally led funding models that can drive reparative justice and long-term transformation in land governance.</li> <li>• How can donors and development partners strategically invest in and amplify joint initiatives to deliver inclusive, just, and sustainable land governance across the region?</li> </ul> <p>Speakers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sara Mbago-Bhunu: Director of IFAD’s East and Southern Africa Division.</li> <li>• Shewakena Aytenfisu Abab, Ph.D., World Bank group</li> <li>• Amel BENKAHLA, AFD.</li> <li>• Ms Fridah Githuku, IMS foundation</li> <li>• Aoife Ossendorp, RVO.</li> <li>• Ms Ketter Christina, GIZ.</li> </ul>	<p>Moderated by: Marcy Vigoda, Director ILC</p>
<p><b>The Way Forward/Closing 16.45 – 17:00</b></p>	<p>What strategic financing mechanisms and coordinated actions can development partners commit to collectively advancing inclusive, community-driven land governance and justice across Africa, while ensuring long-term impact, regional alignment, and locally led reform processes?</p>	<p>Closing remarks by Ward Marcy Vigoda &amp; Ward Anseeuw.</p>
<p><b>Group Photo + tea break</b></p>		