East African Land Administration Network

Research Strategy

REALise Researching Eastern African Land Administration

2020-2024

Version October 2019

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

'REALise – Researching Eastern African Land Administration' is the *draft* research strategy and workplan for the Eastern Africa Land Administration Network (EALAN). Whilst Eastern Africa countries possess diverse cultural, social, political, legal, and administrative backgrounds, they share a range of synergies with regards to land administration, broader land governance, and issues relating to land access for women and vulnerable groups. In the Eastern Africa region, existing land administration systems 1) insufficiently recognize and formalize land tenures due to a lack of quality land tenure information; 2) create conflicting land governance actors and processes; and 3) do not adequately support land access for vulnerable groups and women. REALise aims at delivering upon EALAN's vision by undertaking comparative research in the three thematic areas of 1) land administration, 2) land governance, and 3) land access for women and vulnerable groups. The overarching objective of REALise is to explore how Eastern African land administration systems can: 1) improve recognition and formalization of land tenures via improved quality of land tenure information; 2) minimize or mitigate conflict between land governance actors and processes; and 3) better support land access to vulnerable groups and women. The strategy and workplan provide a high-level overview of points of departure for EALAN research, core problems and objectives to be researched on the short and medium term, the overarching theory of change, a detailed research matrix and workplan for 2016-2020, a timeline of tasks and deliverables in the same period, details on existing EALAN research, skills gap analysis, stakeholder overview, articulation of key ethical issues, and expected outputs. A range of research methodologies will be applied collaboratively across the themes: primary and secondary data will be utilized in synthesis, comparative, and design oriented research. The strategy and plan are created in the context of the SEALAN project 'Strengthening the East African Land Administration Network' – part of the Netherlands Government NUFFIC NICHE program, 2016-2020. The document represents Deliverable 4.1 of SEALAN – the creation of a research strategy and accompanying work plan – and builds from the EALAN Strategic and Business plans – both enacted at the EALAN AGM in July 2016. Development of the research plan was first undertaken in Musanze, Rwanda at INES Ruhengeri between 23-27 May 2016, with subsequent revisions made in June and July 2016. The document is intended to act as a shortterm (1-4 years) and medium/long term (4-6 years) research roadmap and planning tool for EALAN: it is revisited and updated at each EALAN AGM.

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GLOSSARY

'Conflicting' is defined as differing, incompatible, or inconsistent viewpoints or actions

'Eastern African region' refers to those countries with institutions involved in the Eastern African Land Administration Network (EALAN)

'Inequitable' is defined as unfair, unbalanced, or biased allocation of resources amongst parties

'Insufficiently recognize and formalize' is considered as inadequate knowledge, acceptance, and ratification of legitimate land interests

'lack of quality land tenure information' is defined as having less than the required level of organized data about people-to-land relationships to enable effective land administration and governance

'Land access' is defined as the availability of land with the required security of ownership, desirable physical and economic, reliable credit and property information, and the level of transparency of fairness of transations.

'Land administration systems' are collections of people, processes, and technologies used to create and maintain information about the relationship between land and people

'Land governance actors and processes' are defined as the entities and activities involved in organizing access, holding, use, and development of land

'Vulnerable groups' are defined as

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1. INTRODUCTION

This document delivers a research strategy and workplan for the Eastern Africa Land Administration Network (EALAN), hereafter referred to as 'REALise – Researching Eastern African Land Administration'. The strategy and plan were originally created in the context of the SEALAN project 'Strengthening the East African Land Administration Network' – part of the Netherlands Government NUFFIC NICHE program, 2016-2020. The creation of a research strategy and accompanying work plan – and builds upon the EALAN Strategic and Business plans. Development of the research plan was first undertaken in Musanze, Rwanda at INES Ruhengeri in May 2016. The document is intended to act as a short-term (1-4 years) and medium/long term (4-6 years) research roadmap and planning tool for EALAN: it is revisited and updated after every two years. The strategy and workplan provide a high-level overview of points of departure for EALAN research, core problems and objectives to be research in the short and medium term, the overarching theory of change, a detailed research matrix and workplan for 2016-2020, a timeline of tasks and deliverables in the same period, details on existing EALAN research, skills gap analysis, stakeholder overview, articulation of key ethical issues, and expected outputs.

2. BACKGROUND OF THE STRATEGY

Eastern Africa countries experience high levels of economic growth, rapid urbanization, and steady rural and agricultural transformation. The changes demand the creation and implementation of responsive policies, laws, and technology application – particularly in relation to land; land and its shifting use lie at the heart of the rapid socio-economic changes – and depending on how land is governed, it can have both an enabling or destabilizing effect. The latter is of particular concern: land grabbing, expropriation, and local or regional land disputes and conflict flare to undermine social cohesion, impede development programs, choke legal systems, and in serious cases, cause injury and even death. For vulnerable groups and women, where historical practices may fail to provide adequate land access, land modernization approaches can unintentionally result in further disadvantage.

Whilst Eastern Africa countries possess diverse cultural, social, political, legal, and administrative backgrounds, they share a range of synergies with regards to land administration, broader land governance, and issues relating to land access for women and vulnerable groups.

Many of the regions *land administration systems* are barely into the establishment phase: they do not cover the entire jurisdiction and at current speeds – lacking sufficient modern human capacity and technologies – cannot hope to do so in the foreseeable future. Other systems fail to recognize and record all legitimate land rights – including those that are social or cultural in nature. Others still are undermined due to lack of transparency at both policy and administrative levels. Despite these systemic challenges, some countries have made great strides in recognizing and recording large numbers of land rights in short amounts of time, often using fit-for-purpose land administration philosophies and tools. Whether and how these lessons can be transferred across the region remains a tantalizingly underexplored focus area.

Looking more broadly, *land governance* regimes in the countries is rarely, if ever, a simple affair. It often involves complex, overlapping, and sometimes-conflicting sets of processes, actors, and roles: untangling the strands of law, regulation, responsible agencies, and informal rules – makes taking decisions over land timely, costly, and haphazard for citizens, government, and the private sector alike. Moreover, the adoption of so-called modern land governance approaches can be at odds with embedded social norms and rules. Whether land governance modernization initiatives are having a positive impact demands further attention via multiple lenses. This was confirmed by the study on land governance undertaken by the EALAN network.

Meanwhile, *Women and vulnerable groups* tend to fair the worst through the presence of the inadequate and inherently biased systems; for widows, divorced women, orphans, youth, those affected by HIV and AIDS, internally displaced people (IDPs) and hunter-gatherer communities – it is more difficult to acquire land access, prove legitimate holdings, and land access is far more easily stripped away. Whether land administration systems are contributing to this plight – and if so how they can be modified to support improved land access – is an area for both immediate and longer-term examination. This was confirmed by the study on access to land for women undertaken by the EALAN network.

3. POINTS OF DEPARTURE

REALise is EALAN's research strategy and workplan – and focuses on developing and enabling implementation of a dedicated comparative research program for the Eastern African land administration community. EALAN envisages a society where land administration systems support good land governance and the land rights of all are protected. EALAN's mission is for the Eastern Africa Land Administration Network (EALAN) to provide a platform to its Members for exchange of knowledge and experiences in Land Administration and Land Governance for quality services to achieve sound Land Policy and Land Governance. EALAN's values are: Trust, Cooperation, Value addition, People centred, Inclusiveness/equity, Transparency and Rule of Law. The Network has a Constitution.

In order to support the vision, mission, and values – through its collaborative research activities – EALAN seeks to realise the vision by undertaking comparative research in the three areas of 1) land administration, 2) land governance, and 3) land access for women and vulnerable groups.

REALise, as the point of departure, focuses on understanding why Eastern African *land administration* systems do not sufficiently support land tenure recognition and formalization – and how such systems might be improved. Comparative understandings of why systems underperform and how they can be improved to support reductions in land conflict, increased investment, enhanced land value, improved credit access, and sustainability more generally.

Further, by focusing more generally on *land governance*, REALise will dig deeper into conflicts and overlaps relating to land policies, decision-making actors, and land processes. Comparatives studies will reveal how varying levels of clarity are created in some country contexts and how they might be adapted in neighbouring contexts. The overarching aim is to contribute to reduced conflicts, duplication of roles, and enhanced transparency in land administration processes.

On the larger goal of achieving equitable access to land for women and *vulnerable groups*, REALise will enable comparative analysis of root causes including culture and discriminatory customs, and simplistic or contextually unaware regularisation programs. Beyond improving land access, the program aims to contribute to reduced land conflicts, less displacement, poverty reduction, and improved food security.

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4. RESEARCH PROBLEM

Building from the above points of departure, and the overarching EALAN vision, mission, and values, the overarching problems underpinning the research line are:

In the Easter Africa region, existing land administration systems 1) insufficiently recognize and formalize land tenures due to a lack of quality land tenure information; 2) create conflicting land governance actors and processes; and 3) do not adequately support land access to vulnerable groups and women

Please see the glossary for definitions and explanations of the terminology used within the problem statement.

5. RESEARCH OBJECTIVE(S)

Following on from the above, the overarching longer-term objectives and sub-objectives for the research plan are therefore:

Theme	Objectives	Sub-objectives
Land administration	To explore how Eastern African land administration systems can: 1) improve recognition and formalization of land tenures via improved quality of land tenure information; 2) minimize or mitigate conflict between land governance actors and processes; and 3) better support land access to vulnerable groups and women	 Whether and how Eastern African land administration systems can improve recognition and formalization of land tenures via improved quality of land tenure information How can the Eastern African land administration systems minimize or mitigate conflict between land governance actors, with focus on customary and statutory tenures? How can the Eastern African land administration systems better support land access to vulnerable groups (i.e. women; IDPs; youth; pastoralists; refugees)? To develop a tenure atlas for the Eastern Africa region
Urban growth	To explore solutions for enhancing tenure security in informal settlements in urban and peri-urban areas	 To assess the trends of urban growth in Eastern Africa To establish appropriate fit for purpose solutions to address land tenure problems in informal settlements
Large scale land acquisition in Eastern Africa	To evaluate the environmental and socio- economic impacts of large	1. To document the incidences, scope and scale of large scale land acquisitions with reference to databases such as the Land Matrix
	scale land acquisition in Eastern Africa	2. What is the environmental and socioeconomic impact of large scale acquisition in Eastern Africa

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		 To assess the effectiveness of existing national lan policies and continental guidelines on sustainable scale land acquisition 	
		 To inventorise tenure arrangements under large s land acquisitions 	scale
		 Undertake a comparative study on land expropria practices in Eastern Africa 	tion
Agriculture and food security	To establish the contribution of land	. To study how land tenure influences food security	τ
	administration in supporting sustainable agriculture	To study the causes and extent of land fragmentat how land administration systems address land fragmentation problems	ion and

6. THEORY OF CHANGE

REAlise seeks to support the EALAN **vision** of a society where land administration systems support good governance and the land rights of all are secured. It focuses on the EALAN research **themes** of land administration, land governance, and women and vulnerable groups; urban growth; large scale land acquisition and food security. For each theme a range of **research problems** are identified, for which a set of cohesive **research activities** are outlined. The activities utilize comparative research approaches to understand why the problems occur across Eastern African countries, the mix of solutions that are applied in those countries, and whether and how those solutions can be adapted and adopted in other contexts. The activities result in **research outputs** in the form of knowledge as publications, tools as concepts and frameworks, and advocacy as policy briefs and high-level meeting interactions. The longer-term **outcomes** are improved land administration systems that better recognize and formalize (where appropriate) land tenures, improved land access for all, poverty reduction, improved food security, improved agricultural productivity, improved livelihoods and ultimately sustainable development.

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FIGURE 1: THEORY OF CHANGE

From figure 1 above; Impacts consists of sustainable development, Themes consists of; Land administration, land governance, women and vulnerable groups, urban growth, large scale land acquisition and agriculture and food security, Research problems consists of; Inadequate recongition and formalization conflicting actors and processes, inequality for women and vulnerable groups, low agricultural productivity, land grabbing, unfair land expropriation and unregulated urban growth, Research Activities consists of; Compare Contexts, understand problems, identify solutions and propose and adapton & adoption, Research out puts consists of; knowledge

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about 'why', tools for 'how' and advocacy in the 'now' and Outcomes consists of; improved recongition, reduced conflicts, improved access, poverty reduction and improved livelihoods.

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7. WORK PLAN

 Table 1: Outline of planned projects

Objective	Questions	Assumptions	Hypotheses	Research Types	Study	Further
To explore whether and how Eastern African land administration	Does land tenure recognition improve with improved land tenure	Land tenures exist and recognition can be measured	An adequate land tenure information system will improve tenure recognition	(Methods and data) Observe, compare and synthesize (case studies using existing reports, spatial data, social data, and papers)	Area All member countrie s	Funding FIG Foundation, GIZ, Swiss Development Cooperation
systems can improve recognition and formalization of land tenures via improved quality of land tenure information	information? How can we improve recognition of land tenures with land tenure information?	Land tenure information improves land tenure recognition	improves investment		etc.	
To develop a tenure atlas for the Eastern Africa region	What land tenure exists in the region?					
To explore how Eastern African land administration systems can	Whydohistoricallandgovernancearrangementsresultin	Multiple land governance institutions in a country have conflicting or	land process in Eastern Africa does not consider the	Observe, synthesize, and compare (case studies including quantitative and qualitative data – both		

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minimizeormitigateconflictbetweenlandgovernanceactorsand processes	conflicting processes and actors?	overlapping roles	people	primary and secondary)		
	How can conflicts and overlaps in land governance be minimized? How can the Eastern African land administration systems minimize or mitigate conflict between land governance actors, with focus on customary and statutory tenures?	It is possible to minimize or eliminate overlaps	Education on the nature of land governance is a decisive factor in minimizing conflicting roles	Design and Model case study results feed into the development of a generalized solution set)		
To explore how Eastern African land administration systems can better support land access to		Inadequate access to land by women and VGs apply through Eastern African	ExistingvulnerablegroupsinEasternAfricanarepastoralists,HIV-AIDSsufferers,orphans,widows,divorcedwomen,	Observe and Compare (case studies including analyses of existing land administration systems, existing research on woman and VGs, land records, and	Ethiopia Kenya Rwanda Tanzani a	A-LPI, GLTN, IGAD, its4land

vulnerable groups			hunter/gather	court cases)		
and women			societies			
	What are the land administration shortcoming affecting access to land by women and vulnerable groups	Land administration processes undermine access to land in Eastern Africa	Shortcomings include legal reforms (e.g. outlawing polygamy), customary practices, religious beliefs, lack of transparency in land administration			
Toexploresolutionsforenhancingtenuresecurityininformalsettlementsinurbanandurbanareas	What are the trends in urban growth and their impacts on land?	Trends in urban growth can be assessed to inform proper urban planning and efficient delivery of services	Appropriate urban planning will eliminate informal settlements. The trend of urban growth in eastern Africa affects land tenure	Observe, compare and synthesize (case studies using existing reports, spatial data, social data, and papers)	All member countrie s	FIG Foundation, GIZ, Swiss Development Cooperation etc.
	Do fit for purpose interventions address land tenure problems in informal settlements ?	Fit-for purpose solutions address informal settlement problems	Fit for purpose interventions will address land tenure problems in informal settlements.			
To evaluate the environmental	What are the incidences,	Large scale land acquisitions are	Uncoordinated large scale land	Observe, compare and synthesize (case	All member	FIG Foundation,
and social	,	•			countrie	GIZ, Swiss
economic impacts	scope and scale of large scale	competing for available land	acquisition can trigger adverse	studies using existing reports, spatial data,		Development

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of large scale land	land acquisitions	resources with	environmental and	social data, and papers)	Cooperation
acquisitionion in	in Eastern	the communities.	social economic		etc.
Eastern Africa	Africa?		impacts		
			Terre certe le d		
			Large scale land		
			acquisition distorts land tenure		
	How effective	There exist	National land		
		suffient	policies and		
	are the existing national land	instruments to	continental		
	policies and	guide Large scale	guidelines are		
	continental	land	adequate to deal		
	guidelines in		with large scale land		
	curbing		acquisitions.		
	unsustainable				
	large scale land				
	acquisition?				
	What are land	There are varied	Land expropriation		
	expropriation	land	practices and		
	practices in	1 1	policies in Eastern		
	Eastern Africa	practices across	Africa affects land		
	XAX 1	Eastern Africa.	rights		
	What are the	There are the	large scale land		
	environmental and	environmental and	acquisition have a social and		
	and socioeconomic	and socioeconomic	social and environmental		
	impact of large	impact of large	impact		
	scale acquisition	scale acquisition	impact		
	in Eastern	in Eastern Africa			
	Africa?	III Luster II IIII lu			

To establish the contribution of land administration in supporting sustainable agriculture	How does land tenure influence food security?	Tenure security affects agricultural productivity	There is a relationship between land tenure and agricultural production	Observe, compare and synthesize (case studies using existing reports, spatial data, social data, and papers)	member countrie	FIG Foundation, GIZ, Swiss Development Cooperation etc.
	What are the causes and extent of land fragmentation? How does land administration systems address land fragmentation problem?	Current land administration system do not adequately address land fragmentation problem	leads to food			

8. EXPECTED OUTPUTS

For the 2020-2024 period, the projects deliver a range of knowledge and advocacy products. The nature and scope of deliverables is monitored throughout. Table 2 provides the minimum outputs to be achieved..

Table 2. REALise research outputs 2020-2024

1) Land Administration
Comparative Datasets
Conference Publication
Journal Publication
Tenure Atlas
Policy Brief
2) Land Governance
Comparative Datasets
Conference Publication
Journal Publication
Policy Brief
3) Women and Vulnerable Groups
Comparative Datasets
Conference Publication
Journal Publication
Policy Brief
4) Urban Growth
Comparative Datasets
Conference Publication
Journal Publication
Policy Brief
5) Large Scale Land Acquisition
Comparative Datasets
Conference Publication
Journal Publication
Policy Brief

6) Agriculture and Food Security					
Comparative Datasets					
Conference Publication					
Journal Publication					
Policy Brief					

9. TIMELINE

With availability of funding, detailed timelies will be created.

10. What preparatory work has been completed?

Numerous completed and ongoing projects are undertaken by various EALAN member institutions. The projects are to be leveraged off, where appropriate and available, in the completion of the REALise pilot projects. Table 3 provides an overview of research projects collaboratively undertaken and completed by all EALAN staf under the SEALAN project (2016-2020).

Table---: Study collaboratively completed under the SEALAN Project

Торіс	Objective	Question	Assumption	Hypotheses	Research	Study	Further
					types	area	funding
					mehods and		
					data		
Comparat	To explore how	Why do historical	Multiple land	Formalizatio	Observe,	Rwanda	A-LPI, GIZ,
ive study	Eastern African	land governance	governance	n of land	synthesize,	Kenya	GLTN, IGAD,
on land	land	arrangements	institutions in	process in	and compare	Ethiopia	its4land
governan	administration	result in conflicting	a country	Eastern	(case studies		
ce in	systems can	processes and	have	Africa does	including		
eastern	minimize or	actors?	conflicting or	not consider	quantitative		
africa	mitigate conflict		overlapping	the interests	and		
	between land		roles	of local	qualitative		
	governance			people	data – both		
	actors and				primary and		
	processes				secondary)		
		How can conflicts	It is possible	Education on	Design and		
		and overlaps in	to minimize	the nature of	e		
		land governance be	or eliminate	land	study results		
		minimized?	overlaps	governance	feed into the		
		inininizeu:	0,011/1/10	is a decisive	development		

				factor in minimizing conflicting roles	of a generalized solution set)		
Comparat	To explore how		Inadequate	Existing	Observe and	Ethiopia	A-LPI, GLTN,
ive study	Eastern African	Eastern Africa?	access to land	vulnerable	Compare	Kenya	IGAD,
on access	land		by women	groups in	(case studies	Rwanda	its4land
to land for	administration		and VGs apply	Eastern	including	Tanzani	
women	systems can		through	African are	analyses of	а	
and	better support		Eastern	pastoralists,	existing land		
vulnerabl	land access to		African	HIV-AIDS	administratio		
e groups	vulnerable			sufferers,	n systems,		
in eastern	groups and			orphans,	existing		
aftrica:	women			widows,	research on		
intergrati				divorced	woman and		
on and				women,	VGs, land		
their				hunter/gathe	records, and		
outcomes				r societies	court cases)		

What are the land	Land	Shortcoming	
administration	administratio	s include	
shortcoming	n processes	legal reforms	
affecting access to	-	-	
•		(e.g.	
land by women and		outlawing	
vulnerable groups	in Eastern	polygamy),	
	Africa	customary	
		practices,	
		religious	
		beliefs, lack	
		of	
		transparency	
		in land	
		administratio	
		n	
		11	

Table 4. Ongoing EALAN consortium member projects to be leveraged

Table 4 provides an overview of ongoing researches at individual EALAN institutions, in line with the research themes identified in the review of 2016-2020 Research stratategy.

Ongoing Projects by EALAN Member Institutions	Land Administr ation	Land Governan ce	Women and VGs	Urban Growth	Large Scale Land Acquisitio n	Agricultur e and Food Security
ARDHI UNIVERSITY, TANZANIA						
Land conflicts in Rural Tanzania: lessons from villages with commercial farming						
Assessing communities' ability to address challenges of large scale land acquisition in Tanzania						
Challenges of Making Land Available for Large Scale Investment in Agriculture for Internal and External Investors in Tanzania: The Dangers Facing Traditional and Communal Land						
Rights Holders: Case Studies from the Lake Zone"						
Challenges of Creating a Land Bank to facilitate large-scale investment in Tanzania						
Changing Customary Land Tenure regimes in Tanzania: Assessing Women's Vulnerability in Morogoro Rural and Kyela Districts						
Access to Land Resources Vulnerability						

and Hiv/Aids In Tanzania			
Adjudication and Demarcation of			
Traditional Land Management Areas in			
Malawi (completed)		 	
RCMRD (REGIONAL)			
* Data Interoperability, E-Land Administration Roadmap in Rwanda			
* AUDA-NEPAD's project on "Collection			
of Country Data and Establishment of			
Help Desks on Land Governance in 10			
Selected African Countries" (ongoing)			
* Development of Natural Resource			
Geoportal and Interactive Maps and			
Atlases for 8 Counties in Kenya for FAO			
in collaboration with national lands			
Commission (ongoing).			
* Process Monitoring of Pilot			
Implementation of New Land Related			
Laws and Facilitate in Development of a Proposal for National Wide Up Scaling			
in Malawi (ongoing)			
UNIVERSITY OF JUBA, SOUTH SUDAN			
Land use conflicts between farmers and			
pastoralists in light of peace			
development and security in South			
Sudan			

Highly Relevant Somewhat Relevant Not Relevant

→ Table on ongoing reserches to be completed, EALAN staff need to send an overview of ongoig researches at home institutions

11. SKILLSTHAT ARE NEEDED

A skills gap analysis for each pilot project revealed specific areas where the skills required to complete the intended research are either missing or require enhancement – and where those skills are required per interest group and per institution (Table 5). Table 5 does not provide the list of skills required in the project that are already available in the consortium. That list is available in the document repository from the SEALAN Research Strategy Development Workshop. The skills gaps identified are used to design research-training activities for

EALAN, as part of the SEALAN project.

Table 5. Ongoing EALAN consortium member projects to be leveraged

SKILLS NEEDED BY ALL INSTITUTIONS	Missing or Enhance
Land Administration	
Researching in post-conflict contexts	Enhance
Map preparation & spatial data analysis	Enhance
Social science research skills	Enhance
Fit for Purpose approaches	Enhance
Statistical Data Analysis	Enhance

Research Ethics	Enhance
Land Governance	
Selecting and applying research methods	Enhance
Conceptual and analytical skills	Enhance
Synthesis research and using big data sets	
Undertanding global and continental policies/guidelines e.g. VGGTs, Africa Framework for Land Governance, LGAF, FPIC (Free and Prior Consent)	Enhance
Statistical Analysis	Enhance
Doing research on land valuation	Enhance
	Enhance
Project proposal and management	Missing
Skills for converting research to advocacy	Enhance
Women and Vulnerable Groups	
Researching with indigenous communities	Missing
Research skills in arbitration and mediation	Enhance
Gender evaluation criteria	Enhance
Urban Growth	
Researching in urban growth contexts	Enhance
Selecting and applying research methods	Enhance
Statistical Data Analysis	Enhance
Large Scale Land Acquisition	
Researching on large scale land aquisition	Enhance
Undertanding global and continental policies/guidelines	Enhance
Selecting and applying research methods	Enhance
Agriculture and Food Security	
Researching on land administration for food security	Enhance
Understanding continental frameworks such as CAADP, Malabo Declaration	Enhance

Selecting and applying research methods	Enhance

12. STAKEHOLDERS

Central governments, local authorities, development partners, land agencies, civil societies, global continental and regional agencies dealing with land issues, local communities.

13. ETHICAL ISSUES

The following ethics self-assessment is considered general and based on assessment tools developed by the European Commission for the organizations undertaking research within the European Union. It is considered a solid basis upon which to identify and respond to potential ethical issues related to research and projects.

Issue	Requirement	Documents to supply
The research involves human participants	Confirm that informed consent has been obtained.	Informed consent forms + information sheets will be developed
The participants are volunteers for social/scientific research	Details on recruitment, inclusion and exclusion criteria and informed consent procedures.	Copies of ethics approvals will be developed and used
The participants are potentially part of vulnerable groups	Details on the type of vulnerability. These must demonstrate appropriate efforts to ensure fully informed understanding of the participation.	Copies of ethics approvals will be developed and made available
The research involves the collection of personal data	Details on your procedures for data collection, storage, protection, retention, transfer, destruction or re-use, methods of storage and exchange, data structure and preservation, data- merging or exchange plan, commercial exploitation of data sets, etc.). Details on your data safety procedures. Confirm that informed consent has been obtained. Details on data transfers to third countries.	Copies of notifications/authorisations for the collection and/or processing of the personal data will be supplied
The research <i>potentially</i> involves the collection and/or processing of sensitive personal data	As above	Copy of notification/authorisation for processing of sensitive data to be supplied
The research <i>potentially</i> involves tracking or observation of participants?	Details on methods used for tracking or observing participants.	Copy of notification/authorisation for processing of sensitive data to be

Table 7. Ethics Assessment and	l Intended Responses
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		supplied
The research involves low and/or lower middle income countries, and benefits-sharing	Details on benefit sharing measures. Details on responsiveness to local research needs. Details on procedures to facilitate effective capacity building.	N/A
measures		
The research has the potential	Risk-assessment to be performed	N/A
for misuse (i.e.		
malevolent/criminal/terrorist		
abuse – or impact on human		
rights)		