

## ***Stand for Her Land:*** Women's Land Rights Campaign FAQ

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*What is the name of the campaign?*

**Stand for Her Land.** *Her rights. Her land. A better future for all.*

*What is the goal of the campaign?*

The campaign's primary goal is to close the gap between laws and practice so that millions of women in countries around the world can realize their land rights in their daily lives. This means breaking down institutional barriers and discriminatory practices that prevent women from realizing their land rights.

The primary objective is to support women, civil society organizations, and coalitions to effect real impact and change on the ground in countries where the campaign is operational.

The campaign seeks to align with, support, and leverage existing frameworks, campaigns, and coalitions, including the 2030 Agenda, contributing towards the shared goal of women's equitable land rights.

*Who will the campaign support?*

The campaign aims to support women across all locations—rural, peri-urban, and urban areas, including informal settlements; across all tenure systems—including customary and statutory, communal and individual; and advance the full spectrum of tenure rights—women's equitable land access, use, management, ownership, inheritance, and transfer rights.

*How is the campaign organized?*

This decentralized campaign is supported by a Global Steering Committee and Global Partners who aim to provide an umbrella framework to generate synergies and global recognition, resource sharing and capacity building, and communications channels that work in service to country-based campaign coalitions.

*What does the campaign look like on the ground?*

The campaign is driven and led by country coalitions—comprised of civil society organizations, NGOs, advocates, and scholars who have a shared interest in the campaign's mission—will be the drivers of change on the ground, identifying the obstacles unique to their own countries and communities, and designing their own advocacy strategies and activities appropriate to the context. This includes groups working at the intersection of land rights, women's rights and empowerment, legal empowerment and justice, food and economic security, and other key sectors connected to women's land rights.

*Where is the campaign being implemented?*

The campaign is just getting underway in Tanzania. We are currently exploring partnerships and coalition building in Kenya, Liberia and India and are open to other countries where there is strong need and strong civil society to take forward the campaign.

*How long is the campaign?*

This is a multi-year, global campaign through 2030. The first phase of the campaign (2019-2020) aims to build the infrastructure, coalition, and communications channels to support the growing global campaign over the next decade.

*Who are the campaign partners?*

The campaign was spearheaded and continues to be coordinated by a core founding group comprising Landesa (as the Secretariat), Global Land Tool Network Partners, Habitat for Humanity, the Huairou

Commission, and the World Bank, who currently serve on the Global Steering Committee. We are actively seeking in-country partners to form campaign coalitions in select countries; global partners; funders and supporters.

### *How do I become part of the campaign (globally or in-country)?*

This is an inclusive, collaborative effort. We are actively seeking campaign partnerships to include a diversity of voices and perspectives from civil society, development organizations, women's rights and empowerment groups, land rights advocates, and other sectors the world over who align with the strategic vision of the campaign.

If you are interested in joining the campaign, contact [karinak@landesa.org](mailto:karinak@landesa.org) or any of the Steering Committee partners.

### *How is the campaign being funded?*

The campaign is currently being funded by the Steering Committee. We are actively seeking campaign funding from individuals, foundations, bi-laterals and multi-laterals.

### *Why this campaign, why now?*

- Many laws and policies, both statutory and customary, have passed in recent years around the world strengthening women's equal rights to land. However, in half of all countries, women are still prevented from realizing those rights as a result of persistent, societal barriers and discriminatory practices. Further compounding the problem are weak implementation policies, insufficient capacity and political will; and a lack of understanding and access to legal services. Targeted and coordinated efforts are therefore necessary to ensure women have access to their rights and it is a reality in their daily lives.
- There are several international instruments and agendas that have been developed to improve women's land rights, including within the 2030 Agenda and VGGTs. There are also multiple regional efforts underway, especially in sub-Saharan Africa through the African Union and ALPC, providing frameworks to strengthen the call to action around women's land rights.
- Already, regional coalitions, global campaigns, civil society leaders, and advocates are mobilizing around the issues of women's rights and land rights (Women Deliver; Kilimanjaro Initiative; Land Rights Now; Solid Ground; etc.) signaling global momentum for this critical issue.
- This campaign aims to build on, complement, and harmonize efforts, helping coalitions from around the world to learn, share, and improve strategies. And importantly, it provides a global platform for amplifying their collective voice to be heard by global development leaders, practitioners, and funders.

### *Why women's land rights at all?*

- Land serves as a foundation for security, shelter, and livelihood.
- Secure land, property and housing rights are fundamental to women's human rights.
- Land rights can provide identity and dignity for women and elevate women's status and decision-making within households and communities.
- Strengthening land rights for women can improve land and resource management, investments, and spending on food and education, bolstering economic and food security for women and their families.
- Land rights can give women greater agency to manage changing natural and political environments, contributing towards resolution and security rather than rendering women more vulnerable.
- YET, women are regularly denied recognition of and access and security to their land rights within their homes, within their communities, and within their countries.