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**GLTN**  
GLOBAL LAND TOOL NETWORK

## THE Network Recap

June 2018

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**Photo Credits:** FGF, Landesa, Neil Sorensen, Hellen Nyamweru, Judith Mulinge, Julius Mwelu, Pexels

**Layout and Editorial:** Judith Mulinge

**GLTN Sponsors:**

Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (Germany)

Government of the Netherlands

Government of Norway

International Fund for Agriculture (IFAD)

Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)

Swiss Agency for Development and Corporation (SDC)  
UN Development Account

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### LEADERBOARD



## Activating partnerships for improved land tenure security

Land sector challenges are vast and complex. Insecure rights to land continues to affect more than 2 billion people living in urban and rural informality worldwide, with women, youth and indigenous people faring the worst. We need more strategic partnerships, at all levels, that drive innovative thinking and provide practical solutions to these tenure security challenges. As I reflect on the 7th GLTN Partners Meeting and GLTN's achievements, I am convinced that more than ever, we have a clear role and responsibility as a convening body that drives collective action within the land community, and informs land policy for improved land governance.

In this first issue of the Network Recap e-zine, we share with you highlights from the 7th GLTN Partners Meeting held in April 2018 in Nairobi, Kenya. In line with the theme 'Together, moving tenure security for all to the next level', the meeting was an occasion to celebrate the milestones realized in the 11 years of GLTN's existence, while exploring innovative ways to address emerging issues in the land sector.

This edition also includes Partners' reflections on GLTN's Strategy 2018-2030. The new strategic focus is to strengthen country implementation of the GLTN Land Toolbox, for measurable and sustainable impact for both urban and rural communities. The Strategy will also see GLTN continue to evolve into a fit-for-purpose Network addressing emerging needs and opportunities in the land sector, and that is responsive to the requirements of the global development agenda.

We must meet people's need for secure access to land. Secure land rights are central to helping individuals and communities around the world to thrive and to lift themselves out of poverty. Building on our current strong partnerships in the Network, let us continue explore ways to support and fund our work, towards achieving our shared vision of secure land rights for all.

**Oumar Sylla**  
Leader - Global Land Tool Network (GLTN)

In attendance  
**+200**  
**PARTICIPANTS**

Representing  
**77**  
**PARTNERS**

Learning tracks  
**8**  
**EVENTS**

Global reach  
**4**  
**REGIONS**

## 7th GLTN Partners Meeting 2018

### Together, Moving tenure security for all to the next level

24-26 April 2018 | Nairobi - Kenya

Hosted by UN-Habitat in the United Nations Offices (UNON) in Nairobi, Kenya, the 7th GLTN Partners Meeting brought together a diverse group of stakeholders. Partners, members and guests came together to reflect on GLTN's impact in the land sector and its future role in the achievement of sustainable development.

During the meeting, partners reviewed GLTN's achievements and lessons learnt over 11 years of collaboration. A key outcome of the Network is the GLTN Toolbox, which now includes 26 land tools and approaches. Based on the Continuum of Land Rights approach, they address five thematic areas and eight crosscutting issues towards improving tenure security. So far, 18 of these tools are field tested and in various stages of implementation.

Additionally, the meeting showcased collaborative in-country projects using GLTN and other complementary land tools. It was clear that at country level, local communities engaged in the projects directly experienced marked improvements in tenure security. More than 200,000 households in 13 countries have benefited. Lessons and experiences from these projects were also shared during the Country Learning Exchange.

The new GLTN strategy 2018-2030 was also tabled and endorsed at the meeting. The Strategy emphasizes inclusiveness through a new governance framework, and increased impact using tool implementation in addition to policy influence at the country level.

Additionally, while keeping GLTN's niche in land tool development, the Strategy emphasizes the partners' central role in the next phase of GLTN and leverages on the strategic focus of global and regional frameworks on land (such as the SDGs, NUA, VGGTs, AU declaration).

The meeting made clear that there is a significant amount of progress, energy and commitment to the GLTN Agenda. The next strategic phase heralds a new era for up-scaled impact, where GLTN tools and technical 'know how' can be closely aligned with global, regional and country level policy frameworks to achieve significant change for both rural and urban communities.

Together, GLTN partners can continue to deliver security of tenure for all.





## Country Learning Exchange

### Taking Stock of GLTN’s Engagement in the Land Sector

GLTN hosted a Country Learning Exchange on the 23rd of April during the 7th Partners Meeting 2018. During this interactive session, implementing partners of GLTN supported country level interventions exchanged notes, recognized and celebrated successes achieved in the second phase of programme implementation. They also shared experiences and lessons learned in the implementation of GLTN land tools and approaches.

Some key achievements noted include extensive gains in improved tenure security for women and men living in informal settlements, in customary land administration, and those living in post-conflict context, evidenced by the issuance of certificates of tenure in some of Kenya’s informal settlements, in Zambia’s Customary Lands and in post-conflict Erbil in Iraq.

Support to national land processes, such as the successful development of a gender responsive National Land Policy

in Uganda (with similar efforts underway in Zambia and Nepal), support to land reform processes in the DR Congo, increased uptake and leveraging of GLTN tools and approaches by national governments, in addition to guidelines and procedures by implementing partners for resource mobilization, are among a host of achievements realized in the concluding GLTN Phase 2 Programme.

In the next strategic phase, as outlined in the GLTN Strategy 2018-2030, the Network will focus on further development, implementation and institutionalization of priority land tools and approaches in countries. In association with civil society organizations, the private sector, local communities and other land actors, GLTN will support national governments to deliver on their international commitments and obligations, (VGGTs, NUA, SDGs), towards sustainable land governance and improved tenure security for all, with a focus on women, youth and vulnerable groups, in both urban and rural settings.



## Good land governance is essential for improved livelihoods

**Farida Karoney, OGW**  
**Cabinet Secretary**  
**Ministry of Lands and Physical Planning**  
**Government of Kenya**

Highlights from her speech at the  
7th GLTN Partners Meeting 2018

Proper land management and administration addresses issues of social justice and cohesion. Therefore, land has a crucial role as an enabler to support manufacturing, access to affordable and decent housing, universal health care, food security and nutrition. The growth of slum areas, as well as the need to settle the landless is a critical reminder that land is essential for improved livelihoods, not just in Kenya but globally.

GLTN continues to be a valued partner for Kenya's land governance work. Notable successes include the Network's participation in the development of the National Land Policy in Kenya, and the IFAD-supported TSLI-ESA Initiative.

Through TSLI-ESA, the STDM has been used to establish GIS-based land information systems in the Mwea Irrigation Scheme and in the Smallholder Dairy Commercialization Programme (SCDP), which is helping to secure land and natural resource rights for smallholder farmers.

The effects of competition have increased challenges of land and natural resource management across international borders, and calls for regional and international cooperation. The Government of Kenya remains committed to adopting appropriate policies and reforms in the land sector in compliance with the global development agenda.



Let us initiate new partnerships and strengthen existing ones to address land tenure issues, towards achieving sustainable cities and human settlements all over the world.

## Improving tenure security for slum dwellers through partnership and collaboration in GLTN

By Sarah Nandudu - National Leader, Slum Dwellers Federation Uganda

As a GLTN Partner, SDI celebrates GLTN's achievements and recognizes that it has positively influenced the global security of tenure agenda and shifted the thinking towards pro-poor and inclusive approaches.

Nonetheless, it is time to look back and reflect on how our collective efforts are contributing to make good living possible for approximately 1 billion people living in slums today, and the estimated 600 million people who suffer from chronic hunger and live in rural areas.

We must also ask ourselves what we have done to prevent illegal evictions or improve tenure security for those living under this threat every day. We are aware that secure access to land is a precondition for reducing poverty. Without sufficient security, people cannot invest in improving their dwelling places, which further exacerbates their poverty levels in all dimensions. There simply can be no meaningful discussion on how to solve the complex social, political and economic situations of informal settlements without looking at the issue of land.

Addressing these challenges requires collaborative planning and insights from local knowledge and data. The SDI, in collaboration partners within the GLTN, has been at the center of efforts to collect contemporary data about the living conditions of the urban poor.

The NSDFU\* in Uganda for example, through the use of GLTN tools such as the Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM) and the Gender Evaluation Criteria (GEC), has been able to generate community data around tenure issues. This is an example of verifiable data which communities and grassroots federations within the SDI are using to trigger informed negotiations for partnerships between them and local governments.

The urban poor are now emerging as critical partners in the struggle against inequality in informal settlements. Using this data, implementation of community inclusive tools with governments at both the local and national level is filling persistent information gaps experienced when addressing issues in informal settlements.

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## GLTN AND ILC COLLABORATION

### Partnering to ensure access to land and secure tenure for inclusive development

By Judith Mulinge

GLTN and the International Land Commission (ILC) have deepened their continuing collaboration on land governance and tenure security issues.

The signing of the Memorandum of Understanding was made official by ILC's Global Network Coordinator Ms. Annalisa Mauro and GLTN Leader Mr. Oumar Sylla at the 7th GLTN Partners Meeting 2018.

This collaboration will significantly increase the impact and sustainable application of appropriate land tools in implementing transformative land policies and land reform at country, regional and global levels.

ILC and GLTN are membership-based networks that bring together more than 270 organizations in the land sector that put the land rights of women, youth and indigenous peoples at the center. They will continue to leverage on each other's strengths towards furthering their shared vision for transformative land governance and tenure security for all.

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Having verifiable data has also seen the local authorities slowly moving from confrontation to collaboration with the urban poor.

Together, as a Network, we can create a genuinely transformative world through cooperation, continuous dialogue and technical innovations. We are all actors and agents of change. Let us initiate new partnerships, strengthen existing ones, and leverage existing resources to address land tenure issues, and develop sustainable cities and human settlements for all.

\*Note:

The National Slum Dwellers Federation of Uganda (NSDFU) is a network of approximately 350 community groups with a membership of approximately 38,000 people. NSDFU is also a member of the Shack/Slum Dwellers International (SDI) network, a transnational network of the urban poor founded in 1996, which brings together more than one million federated slum dwellers in 30 countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

+270 LAND SECTOR  
ORGANIZATIONS ARE  
GLTN AND ILC MEMBERS

### The Continuum of Land Rights...

...is a concept for understanding and administering the rich complexity of land rights on the ground. The rights along the Continuum may be documented or undocumented, formal or informal, for individuals and groups, including pastoralists and informal settlements that may be legal or not legal.

The rights do not lie along a single line and they may overlap.

#DIDYOUKNOW

# GLTN Strategy 2018-2030

## Vision: A world in which Everyone enjoys Secure Land Rights

GLTN's Strategy 2018-2030 sets out how the Network will support national, local governments and other key stakeholders to fulfil their obligations for inclusive development, meet their Sustainable Development Goals commitments and human rights obligations on land and tenure security.

The focus of the Strategy is twofold:

- To consolidate GLTN's normative work on land tool development, testing and dissemination, focusing on urgently needed, priority tools
- Through effective in-country partnerships; to promote and facilitate the adoption of tools, and develop the necessary capacity for fit-for-purpose implementation, at scale, of land tools and practices promoting tenure security.

The purpose of the Strategy is to enable GLTN to effectively respond to the emerging needs, challenges and opportunities in the land sector, and successfully deliver the tools and know-how to meet stakeholders' needs and requirements.

This will help achieve the impact required to improve tenure security for all; and promote the attainment of sustainable development.

 **More  
Information**





My motto is that if you have made big steps in land governance, you are making big steps in good governance.

Governance means everyone working together to make a difference.

## Land is the maker and the marker of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

By Frits van der Wal - Senior Policy Advisor – Cluster Food & Nutrition Security and Focal Point Land Governance  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Netherlands

Land is the maker and the marker of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). For the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), our aim is to contribute squarely to relevant land-related results where solutions exist and actions are needed, which is at sub-national or national levels in countries. We work with national and local governments as well as with other locally mandated actors that in most cases get assistance from international organizations.

Next to this we also purposely support international networks, such as the International Land Coalition (ILC) and the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) and multi-stakeholder partnerships in the Netherlands, such as the LAND partnership with Dutch Kadaster on igniting fit for purpose land administration, LANDac and the LANDdialogue.

It is safe to say that we see an essential number of pathways to better land governance, which is vital for securing food security and nutrition and many more of the SDGs. My motto is that if you have made big steps in land governance, you are making big steps in good governance which is essential everywhere for achieving the SDGs. Governance is not the same as government; it means everyone working together to make a difference. The Netherlands invests in networks and partnerships

as this is a very important way in which organizations can be strengthened in becoming more effective and sustainable. Better equipped organizations are needed to realise improved results in the local and international context. In achieving this, however, it is essential that the to-be-strengthened organizations invest themselves in very significant ways, in the running of the networks, and in partnerships. Ultimately, what we have learned in the Netherlands is that cooperation and partnership and investments between government agencies, the private sector, financial institutions, civil society and knowledge and training institutes can lead to progress.

The GLTN is a learning and innovative tool development network that should focus on how it adds value to the larger ecosystem. It should also be clear that an investment in the GLTN should not compete with funding to land governance actors that directly work on achieving relevant results, but should empower partners and play a catalytic role where change can be made. Land is a critical component of achieving the SDGs, and we see the international and national organizations that the MFA supports as playing a crucial role in making these linkages.

Without more secure and just land governance in the spirit of the VGGTs, the SDGs cannot be achieved. As the marker, or benchmark, progress towards the achievement of land-related SDGs is equally important to ensuring we are headed in the right direction.



## Lets talk about Partnerships

**By: Melissa J. Permezel**

GLTN is moving to the next Phase with a dynamic Strategy promoting inclusive at scale impact and the institutionalization of the GLTN Agenda.

What type of Network and Partnerships do we need to deliver at-scale change? A partnerships session at the recent GLTN Partner's meeting, reflected on just that. Moderated by Kadaster International's Kees de Zeeuw, the diverse panel consisting of Fatouma Sissoko from UNECA's Africa Centre for Statistics, Naome Kabanda from Uganda's Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development, Annalisa Mauro, from International Land Coalition (ILC), Rene Peter Hohmann from Cities Alliance, Frank Pichel from Cadasta and Scott Schang from Landesa; proposed the following "key elements" for promoting dynamic, inclusive partnership results.

- **"Put yourself in your partners shoes"**- try and understand how they think and what they want to gain from a partnership.
- **Consider Partnerships from all angles** -social, environmental and economic - to understand what's driving people to engage and how the outcome can deliver across all three elements.
- Ensure that all parties **have a mutual respect for and an interest in the concept of "working together to achieve more"**. A genuine belief in "together" can lead to significant change.

- **Define your partnership values upfront.** It sounds obvious but panelists suggested that the values underpinning a collaboration must be spelt out.
- Develop mechanisms to keep the partnership on track and ensure that roles and responsibilities are clear (such as through a Memorandum of Understanding).
- **Consider aspects like human rights and gender.** These elements aren't naturally or always considered. Ensure they are part of any Memorandum of Understanding.
- **Undertake stakeholder mapping** to get a sense of where partners might fit in the bigger picture or how they can contribute to the practical elements of a programme or project.
- **Consider if you really have on board all the right partners?** Are there some "less usual suspects" you can reach out to? It's worth asking who is not around the partnership table but could and should be?
- **Monitor and track partnerships** and don't be afraid to seek evidence for what has been achieved by the collaboration.

Up-scaled impact needs all scales and levels of partners and partnerships. Integrated partnerships are the way to ensure that no-one is left behind.

Share your thoughts and ideas with our Partnerships and Network Coordinator at [melissa.permezel@un.org](mailto:melissa.permezel@un.org)





SECURE  
LAND  
RIGHTS  
BREAKS THE  
CYCLE OF  
POVERTY

**Landesa Rural Development Institute** is an international nonprofit organization working to secure land rights for the world's poorest people who live in rural areas and depend on land for their livelihood.

Founded as the Rural Development Institute in 1967, Landesa has partnered with governments, communities and other stakeholders in more than 50 countries to advance pro-poor, gender-sensitive land rights reforms using law and policy tools. These reforms have helped alleviate poverty, reduce hunger and ease conflict over land for more than 120 million women and men.

### Insights from Landesa Senior Attorney and Land Tenure Specialist, Jennifer Duncan, during the recent GLTN Partner's meeting

Landlessness is one of the best predictors of extreme poverty. When families have secure rights to land, they can invest in their land to sustainably increase their harvests and enjoy improved nutrition, health, education, and sustain their economic activities.

Partnership in GLTN connects Landesa's work across different sectors from the global north and south in a meaningful way. As a part of a greater global success story, GLTN's work through the Global Land Indicators Initiative - GLII (which Landesa is active in) ensured land indicators were included in the SDGs.

[www.landesa.org](http://www.landesa.org)

Thus, the elevated the profile of land and secure land tenure as a fundamental aspect of development has contributed to the reclassification efforts for land indicators in the SDGs. Now that land is increasingly an international issue, the real work in the next phase of GLTN is to help realize good land policies and make international frameworks a reality for people on the ground.

As an organization from the global north, Landesa's agenda for land tenure security is set to meet the needs at the national level for rural and urban communities.

The new GLTN Strategy 2018-2030 reflects this challenge. Using the GLTN Land Toolbox and coordination platforms, we all now need to collaborate as stakeholders and move forward with a common purpose working at a national level to deliver real and lasting tenure security solutions for communities

**Check it out...**

In Partnership with:  
**land portal**

**LAND**  
AND THE SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS)

The Land and SDGs dashboard enhances access to information around land indicators in the SDGs and related processes that monitor their progress.

## EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES



LANDac Summer School  
2-13 July 2018



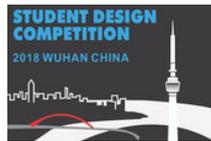
High Level Political Forum  
on Sustainable  
Development 2018  
9-18 July 2018



Moscow Urban Forum  
2018  
17-22 July 2018



The first Global  
Symposium on Urban and  
Territorial Planning  
30 July - 01 August 2018



UN Habitat 2018  
International Urban Design  
Student Competition



Singapore - UN Habitat  
international capacity  
building programme  
27-31 August 2018

## FEATURED JOBS

- Advocacy and Government Relations Consultant at Habitat for Humanity
- Associate Professor Geospatial Science at RMIT University
- Geospatial Sciences Lecturer at RMIT University

## IN THE NEWS



Strengthening Capacity of Partners and Land Actors in Zambia

GLTN



KZN community take on chief over land sale

ENZA.com



Competing claims complicate land ownership for Brazil's slave descendants

PLACE



UN-Habitat and Sudan sign Country Programme Document

UN Habitat



Women call on Liberia's Weah to keep his promise of equal land rights

PLACE



South Africa's 'dispossessed' urban poor call for land reform

PLACE



Securing land and property rights for all

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