

AGENDA - Politics and economics in land governance

3-4 March 2026

Join us as we explore the political and economic factors that influence land governance outcomes around the world.

Day 1 | Tuesday, 3 March

Hybrid sessions, 09:00 – 18:00 (GMT)

Registration & coffee | 09:00 – 09:30

Introductions & welcome | 9:30 – 10:15

09:30 – 09:40 **Opening | Prof. Jessica Lamond**, University of the West of England/LINK, UK (in person)

09:40 – 09:45 **Welcome to the conference | Robin Bloch**, Land Facility Decision Support Unit, UK (in person)

09:45 – 09:50 **Welcome to RICS | James Kavanagh**, Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, UK (in person)

09:50 – 10:00 **Introduction | Will Hines**, Humanitarian Director, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), UK (in person)

10:00 – 10:15 **Keynote | Ward Anseeuw**, Lead of the Land Tenure Team, Food Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Italy (online)

The State of Land Tenure and Governance (SLTG) Report

Session 1: Improving understanding of the political economy factors that influence land governance | 10:15 – 11:30

10.15 – 10:20 **Introduction | Niki Palmer**, Land Facility Decision Support Unit, UK (in person)

10:20 – 11:05 **Presentations**

Renée Chartres (Land Equity International, Australia), Imelda Evinani (Land Equity International, Australia), Dian Aryani (Independent Consultant) and Kate Fairlie (Land Equity International, Australia), ID: 64, Title: *The Political Economy of Land Management Rights in Indonesia: Case Study from Kampung Naga* (in person)

Kate Rickersey (Land Equity International, Australia), Stuart Ling, Cecilia Luttrell, Davone Bounphasouk and Arnaldo Pellini, ID: 84, Title: *How multi-year, multistakeholder engagements shape policies and regulations for good land governance in Lao PDR* (online)

Cecilia Luttrell (Independent Consultant), Title: *Why context matters: a political economy lens on the lessons from the Mekong Region Land Governance Programme, and the Lao PDR and Indonesia case studies* (in person)

11:05 – 11:30 **Discussion**

11:30 – 11:45 BREAK

Session 2: UK support for international land governance | 11:45 – 13:00

11.45 – 11:50 **Introduction | Will Taylor** (Governance Head of Profession, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), UK)

11.50 – 12:30 **Panel discussion | UK support for international land governance** (in person)

Chris Penrose-Buckley (Deputy Head Food Security, Agriculture and Land, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, UK)

John Meadows (Land Facility Lead Supplier, UK)

Pam Whitham (Ordinance Survey, UK)

In partnership with



Funded by



Media partner



James Kavanagh (Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, UK)

Geoffrey Payne (Geoffrey Payne & Associates, UK)

12:30 – 12:35 **Summary of discussion from moderator**

12:35 – 13:00 **Discussion**

13:00 – 14:00 LUNCH

Session 3: Power and agency in land governance | 14:00 – 16:00

14:00 – 14:05 **Introduction** | **Emily Hayter** (Land Facility Decision Support Unit, UK) (in person)

14:05 – 14:20 **Lead Presenter** | **Prof. Catherine Boone** (London School of Economics, UK)

National land registration trial and error: things seen and unforeseen in Côte d'Ivoire (in person)

14:20 – 15:35 **Presentations**

Hon. Saleh Maalim Alio (County Government of Mandera, Kenya), ID: 3, Title: *Political Economy Drivers of Land Governance in Kenya: Lessons from Frontier Counties for Sustainable and Inclusive Reform* (online)

Ope Simpson (King's College London, UK), ID: 14, Title: *Mind the gap: Elite mediation, legal pluralism, and spatial variation in land violence in Nigeria* (online)

Baltazar Atangana (For Greening, Cameroon), ID: 31, Title: *Gendered pathways to inclusive land governance: Women's leadership and resilience in African territories* (online)

Netsanet Genene, Christian Mesmer and Rahel Hailu (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, Germany/Ethiopia), ID: 28, Title: *Engaging religious leaders as sympathizers for advancing women's land rights* (online)

Liz Alden Wily (Leiden University, The Netherlands), ID: 131, Title: *Finding paths beyond impunity: The new land governance challenge* (online)

15:35 – 16:00 **Discussion**

16:00 – 16:15 BREAK

Session 4: Widening perspectives for land governance | 16:15 – 18:00

16:15 – 16:20 **Introduction** | **Saskia Simonson** (Lead Country Coordinator, Land Facility, Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), UK) (in person)

16:20 – 16:35 **Lead Presenter** | **Diane Dumashie** (President, International Federation of Surveyors (FIG)/RICS, Denmark/UK)

FIG Network diversity and leverage – multi-stakeholder approaches (in person)

16:35 – 17:35 **Presentations**

Christelle van den Berg (Kadaster International, Netherlands), ID: 47, Title: *Unlocking the value of land: Financing governance for sustainability* (in person)

Francisco Carranza (Global Action for Land, Italy), Charl-Thom Bayer (Land Portal Foundation, Netherlands), Washe Kazungu (TMG Research, Kenya), ID: 51, Title: *Bridging perspectives: Multistakeholder and digital platforms for intersectional land governance* (online)

Robert Home (Anglia Ruskin University), ID: 49, Title: *Interdisciplinary approaches to African land policy* (in person)

Lars Brugman (Kadaster International, Netherlands), Jan Rouwendal (Vrije Universiteit, Netherlands) and Hans Wisman (Kadaster International, Netherlands), ID: 54, Title: *Public versus private land sellers: Divergent pricing strategies in Dutch residential development* (in person)

17:35 – 18:00 **Discussion and close of Day 1**

In partnership with



Funded by



Media partner



Day 2 | Wednesday, 4 March

Online-only sessions, 09:00 – 17:30 (GMT)

09:00 – 09:05 **Welcome** | **Grazyna Wiejak-Roy** (University of the West of England/LINK, UK)

Session 1: Theme 2: Power and agency in land governance | 09:05 – 10:20

09:05 – 09:10 **Introduction** | **Geoffrey Payne** (Geoffrey Payne & Associates, UK)

09:10 – 09:55 **Presentations**

Asrul Sidiq (Universitas Syiah Kuala, Indonesia / Australian National University, Australia), ID: 35, Title: *Growing trees, losing land: Power, accountability, and local resistance to land commodification in Aceh, Indonesia*

Kato Mayanja (Kyambogo University, Uganda) and **Ronald Ssendendo** (Makerere University, Uganda), ID: 77, Title: *Power dynamics and land governance: A political economy analysis of elite capture in Uganda's land sector*

Dinelago Mutota (Namibia University of Science and Technology, Namibia), ID:116, Title: *The 2018 land conference and beyond: Power, agency and informal settlements in Namibia*

09:55 – 10:20 **Discussion**

10:20 – 10:30 BREAK

Session 2: Theme 1: Improving understanding of the political economy factors that influence land governance | 10:30 – 12:00

10:30 – 10:35 **Introduction** | **Esther Obaikol** (Independent Consultant, Uganda)

10:35 – 11:35 **Presentations**

Daramola Olapade and **Damilola Agbalajobi** (Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria), ID: 55, Title: *The political economy of land reform in Nigeria: Interplay of national and sub-national interests*

Alice Karanja and **Elizabeth Murage-Kimani** (African Population and Health Research Center, Kenya), ID: 13, Title: *African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC) climate stress, land tenure precarity and household adaptation in Kenya's drylands: A political economy analysis*

Claudia D'Andrea, **Katrin Kuhlmann**, **Vanessa Adams**, **Worlali Senyo**, **Cecilia Shardey**, **Tara Francis** and **Aaron Adu** (Land Facility, UK), ID: 48, Title: *Land Facility strengthening women's rights through shea value chains in West Africa gendered political economies of shea: Global market expansion, customary tree tenure, and women's land rights in West Africa's shea parklands*

Eunice Adwoa Sarpong (University of Parakou, Benin/Georg-August University of Göttingen, Germany) and **Prof Dr Nikolaus Schareika** (Georg-August University of Göttingen, Germany), ID: 111, Title: *Navigating rural land reform: Insights from Fulani agropastoral communities in northern Benin*

11:35 – 12:00 **Discussion**

12:00 – 12:10 BREAK

Session 3: Theme 4: Changing approaches to the economics and financing of land governance | 12:10 – 13:40

12:10 – 12:15 **Introduction** | **Grazyna Wiejak-Roy** (University of the West of England / LINK, UK)

12:15 – 13:15 **Presentations**

Kashi Kafle (Texas A&M University, US), **Soumya Balasubramanya** (World Bank, US) and **Kodjo Barnor** (Texas A&M University, US), ID: 50, Title: *Private land restoration in smallholder systems: Implications for rural wellbeing*

Agnès Tatiana Omengue Edoa (University of Yaounde 2 / Association of Young Experts on Land Issues, Cameroon), ID: 81, Title: *Responsible land investments in agriculture: Rethinking structured and sustainable projects for local communities*

Tatiana Gumucio (Landesa, US), **Cininta Pertiwi** (Landesa, US), **Juan Robalino** (Landesa, US) and **Tanvir Ahmed** (Shushilan, Bangladesh), ID: 98, Title: *Linking governance, climate resilience, and sustainable development for enhanced policy over mangrove ecosystem management in Bangladesh and Indonesia*

Shewakena Aytenfisu Abab (World Bank, US), ID: 25, Title: *Who owns the 45 billion trees planted by Ethiopia's Green Legacy Initiative? Challenges, opportunities, and pathways*

13:15 – 13:40

Discussion

13:40– 14:10

LUNCH

Session 4: Theme 3: Widening perspectives for land governance | 14:10 – 15:40

14:10 – 14:15 **Introduction | Robin Bloch** (Land Facility Decision Support Unit, UK)

14:15 – 15:15

Presentations

Devie Chilonga (Former Permanent Secretary: Ministry of Lands and Housing, Malawi) and **Euphemia Bota** (Former Deputy Commissioner: Ministry of Lands and Housing, Malawi); ID: 109, Title: *Evidence from integrated agricultural and watershed programmes*

Marina Cromberg and **Anne M. Larson** (Center for International Forestry Research - ICRAF, Kenya), ID: 36, Title: *The political economy of jurisdictional REDD+: A case study in Pará, Brazil*

Ritah Kemigisa (Stand for Her Land Campaign, Uganda and Uganda Community Based Association for Women and Children Welfare, Uganda), **Caroline Kayanja** (Uganda Community Based Association for Women and Children Welfare, Uganda) and **Jonathan Ochom** (Tenure Advisory, Uganda), ID: 83, Title: *Women's Land Rights in Uganda's 2026 Presidential Elections*
Simon Peter Mwesigye (Land, Housing and Informal Settlements Section, UN-Habitat / Kyambogo University, Uganda), **Augustus Aturinde** (Kyambogo University, Uganda) and **Geoffrey Okeny** (Kyambogo University, Uganda), ID: 100, *Participatory land pooling and readjustment for integrated peri-urban land governance in Uganda*

15:15 – 15:40

Discussion

15:40 – 15:50

BREAK

Session 5: Theme 4: Changing approaches to the economics and financing of land governance | 15:50 – 17:20

15:50 – 15:55 **Introduction | James Kavanagh** (Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), UK)

15:55 – 16:55

Presentations

Hansika Agrawal (Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment, US), **Esther Akwii** (Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment, US), **Rose Mosi** (International Institute for Environment and Development, UK) and **Amaelle Seigneret** (formerly International Institute for Environment and Development, UK), ID: 60, Title: *Responsible land governance for a just energy transition: Strategies from Indonesia and Zambia*

Ece Ozmen (Manisa Celal Bayar University, Turkey), ID: 107, Title: *Governing the urban limit: A fuzzy logic approach to balancing political economy and environmental capacity in Turkish metropolitans*

Sinan Güneş and **Harun Tanrivermiş** (Ankara University, Turkey), ID: 129, Title: *Exploring land readjustment for urban resilience and housing solutions: The case of Karataş, Türkiye*

Dionysia Georgia Perperidou (University of West Attica, Greece), ID: 113, Title: *Transfer of development rights as a financing mechanism for heritage protection and social inclusion policies*

16:55 – 17:20

Discussion

17:20 – 17:30

Closing remarks