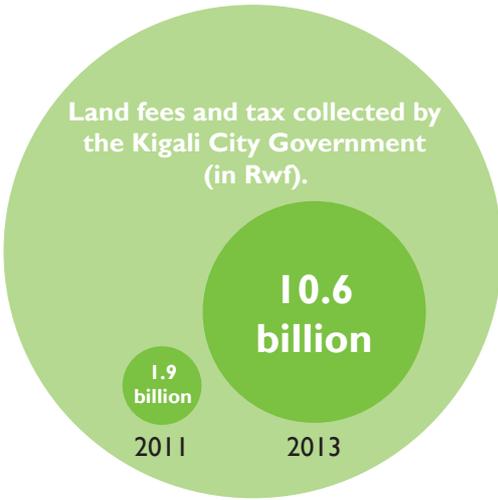


Improving land-based revenue collection: A catalyst to economic growth and development



Number of parcels subject to tax and lease fees: **1,545,105** or **15%** of all registered parcels.

Under the 2004 national land policy, the government introduced a system for generating revenues to sustain land administration and support Rwanda's development. Revenues have been rising, but as with any new process, challenges are inevitable. Here's information based on recent research:

Most districts lack data on taxable parcels and the fees due, as well as management tools to track land-related income by source and type of service.

Some district officials do not know which properties are subject to the fixed asset tax or how to apply the legal rate structure.

Some parcels are still registered incorrectly (e.g., residential, agricultural or commercial).

Inaccurate property valuations are leading to inaccurate tax assessments.

Reassignment of RRA to collect revenues has increased collections, but hindered district capacity to take on the task.

Some people are unclear about land revenue, especially lease fees.

I don't understand why I have to pay it.

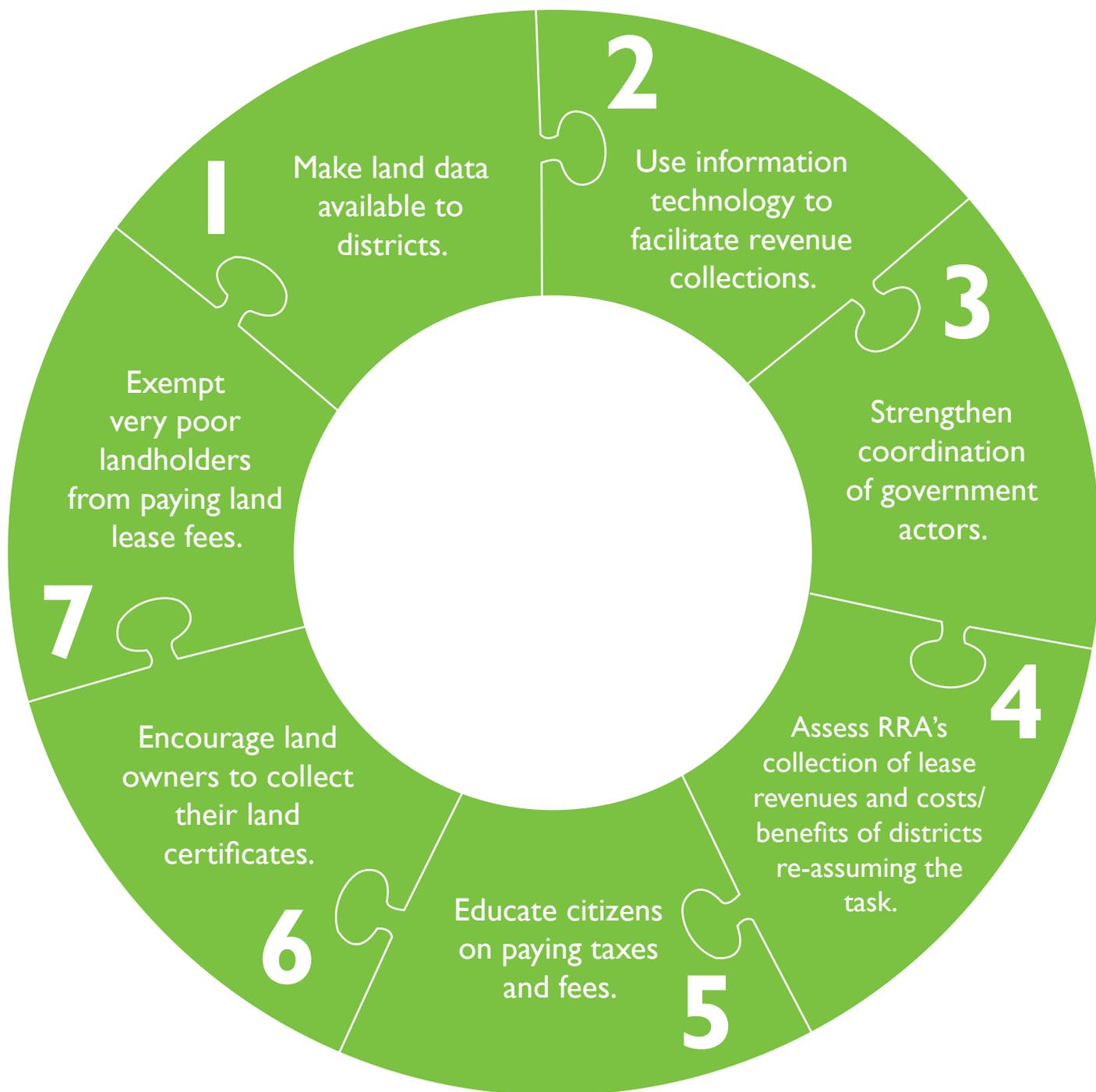
Land lease fees are unfair given the high cost of living.

Lease fees were not mentioned during the land registration campaign. I feel tricked.

Lease fees should only apply to commercial land.

Sometimes we feel they want us to fail to pay so they can give out our land to investors.

We have a lot of opportunities to strengthen the system and improve results.



This document summarizes *Land Tenure Reform and Local Government Revenues in Rwanda*, a research brief produced by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Rwanda Land Project. The content is based a review of existing studies, the legal framework and key informant interviews. To read the full brief, visit www.rwandaland.org

This document was made possible by the support of the American people through USAID. The contents do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.