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LANDLINKS

#LandMatters Newsletter August 2022

Dear Readers,

I am pleased to present the USAID Land and Resource Governance (LRG) Division's August 2022 newsletter, which showcases recent highlights from LRG programming across USAID. This month, we feature two blogs written by members of the LRG Division that are focused on ways to strengthen women's participation and leadership in land and resource mapping and in responding to climate change. As part of our ongoing Women's Land Rights Champions series, we also feature perspectives from Corinne Hart, USAID's Senior Gender Advisor for Energy, Environment, and Climate. This newsletter also features four new resources to help guide practitioners in integrating land and resource governance programming into other development sectors like biodiversity conservation, climate change, democracy and conflict, and gender equality and social inclusion. Finally, we feature two new case studies focused on Mobile Applications for Securing Tenure (MAST), including its historical evolution over the past ten years and its cross-sectoral uptake for contributing to natural resource management programming in Tanzania.

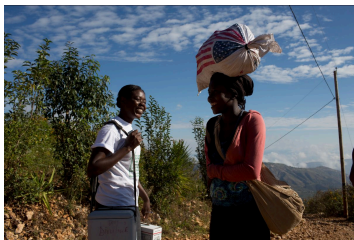
Stephen Brooks
Division Lead, USAID Land and Resource Governance Division

Strengthening Women's Land Rights



Five Lessons from Using MAST to Advance Women’s Land and Resource Rights

In this blog, Ioana Bouvier and Janet Nackoney of the USAID Land and Resource Governance Division highlight how USAID is helping to address long-standing inequities in women’s land rights through its Mobile Applications to Secure Tenure (MAST). MAST engages local communities—with specific focus to the inclusion of women and youth as trusted local community members—who are trained to use maps and mobile devices to identify and record individual and communal land boundaries, land use, and ownership information.



Five Ways Women Lead on Addressing Climate Change - And Three Ways We Can Empower them to Lead More

In this blog post, Karol Boudreaux from the USAID Land and Resource Governance Division shares highlights from a recent webinar, “Frontiers: Women Leading Solutions to Climate Change.” This webinar, co-hosted by USAID and New America on the sidelines of the 66th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), hosted seven powerful women in conversation about how climate change

poses unique challenges to women, and the ways in which women are uniquely positioned to respond.

Meet a USAID Women's Land Rights Champions

Over the past year, we have published a series highlighting USAID Women's Land Rights Champions. The latest Champion is Corinne Hart, USAID's Senior Gender Advisor for Energy, Environment, and Climate.



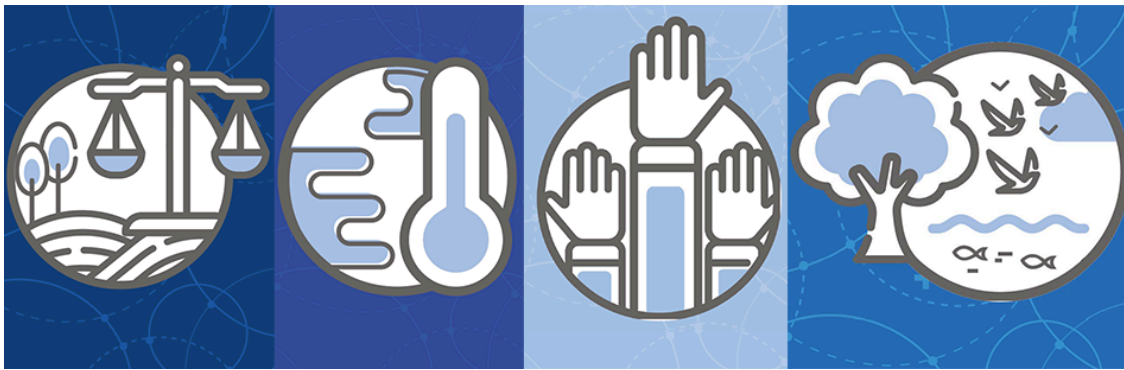
[Corinne Hart, USAID](#) - "USAID is on the forefront of implementing gender-transformative women's land rights programs that are addressing a wide range of issues that can impede equal rights to land."

See all the 2021-2022 champions [here](#).

All these blogs and related resources can be found on the [Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment page](#) on Land-Links.org



New Resources Available



Incorporating Land and Resource Governance in Other Development Sectors: Reference Sheet Series

Land and natural resources are discrete, finite, and fundamentally important assets. In developing countries, they constitute a substantial part of personal and national wealth. A country's approach to land and resource governance (LRG) contributes significantly to its broader socio-economic development. LRG is increasingly recognized as a foundational component of many key environment and sustainable development strategies, and effective LRG strategies at all scales can contribute to achieving positive human well-being and environmental outcomes.

Each reference sheet in this series briefly outlines existing evidence on the links between LRG and an adjacent development topic—and provides practical guidance for integrating LRG considerations across the Program Cycle. See the series:

- [Incorporating Land and Resource Governance into Biodiversity Conservation Programming](#)
 - [Incorporating Land and Resource Governance into Climate Change Programming](#)
 - [Incorporating Land and Resource Governance into Democracy and Conflict Programming](#)
 - [Incorporating Land and Resource Governance into Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Programming](#)
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New Case Studies on Mobile Applications to Secure Tenure (MAST)

[A Decade in the Making: The Evolution of Mobile Applications to Secure Tenure \(MAST\)](#) - This case study examines the evolution of the MAST approach, from conception to piloting, assessment, and scaling. This work demonstrates how MAST can be used to address issues including poverty reduction, women's empowerment, conflict prevention, and food security.

[Leveraging MAST in Natural Resource Management: Cross-Sectoral Uptake Throughout Tanzania](#) - This case study examines cross-sectoral applications of MAST beyond land tenure to sectors ranging from conservation to water and sanitation.

USAID Land Project Highlights



USAID's [Integrated Land and Resource Governance](#) program is a flexible field support mechanism that works with USAID Missions to provide both short- and long-term assistance. Read their other most recent publication: [Gender and Land in Traditional Land Management Area \(TLMA\) Mwansambo in Malawi: Gender Assessment Brief](#)

Quote from the field: *"We are very happy that despite being 'Mtengwa' and very elderly widows, we have been granted the opportunity to register land. We will no longer be living in fear of land grabbing."* - After the death of their polygamous husband, Ms Sulitha Ziyenda (62) and Ms Zujati Wilson (82) kept living together in his land in Mpozera village in Malawi with several children and grandchildren. One of the women has vision and hearing health disabilities. Under the ILRG project, the two women have registered the land their husband left them, also registering all their children as landholders, including stepchildren.



USAID's [Integrated Natural Resource Management](#) activity provides on-demand support services and technical assistance for USAID Missions, Bureaus, and Independent Offices across a wide array of environmental and natural resource management issues, with a focus on gender equality and social inclusion. The activity organized the reference sheet series and the MAST case studies highlighted above. Other recent publications include: [Issue Brief: Environmental Defenders](#)



The USAID-funded [Land for Prosperity](#) activity supports the Government of Colombia in improving the conditions of rural households to achieve licit economic development through land tenure strengthening. Read more in some of their recent blog posts:

- [Rewriting a History of Conflict](#)
- [Keeping the Land Title in the Family](#)
- [Reaping the Fruits of Empowerment](#)



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