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**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

**LANDLINKS**

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# #LandMatters Newsletter December 2021

Strengthening Women's Land Rights

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## Women Claim Their Space in Land Governance

Read how USAID is employing an innovative approach to ensure that rural women participate in decisions about land and natural resource use in Liberia.

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### Women Farmers in India get the Recognition they Deserve

Learn how USAID's partnership with PepsiCo to make the business case for women's empowerment in their agricultural supply chains is developing the capacity of PepsiCo's local staff to empower women. The activity is increasing women's access to land and enhancing their skills and knowledge to increase the recognition and importance of their contributions to potato farming.

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### In Her Own Hands: Empowering Rural Women Farmers in Mozambique

The USAID partnership with agriculture company, Grupo Madal, is improving productive land use and providing new economic opportunities for women in Mozambique.

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### In Her Name: securing land tenure for women in Zambia

USAID is helping to resolve long-standing tensions over customary rights and promoting gender-

responsive practices to encourage joint land registration in Zambia.

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## Meet the USAID Women's Land Rights Champions



[Marcela Chaves, USAID/Colombia](#) - “Women’s land rights are a central piece of our work in the Rural and Economic Development Office at USAID/Colombia and a cross-cutting issue for our Mission.”



[Catherine Tembo, Ph.D., USAID/Zambia](#) - “With our support and working in partnership with the Zambian Government and the traditional leadership, we are seeing an increase in women owning land.”

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All these blogs and related resources can be found on the new [Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment page](#) on LandLinks



### For even more recent blogs see:

- [Land Rights: An Important Tool in the Fight Against Hunger](#)
  - [We Need Land-Use Planning to Prevent Deforestation at the Agricultural Frontier — And It’s Harder Than You Think](#)
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## 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 some of their recent publications to learn more.

- Brief: [Women's Land Rights and Economic Empowerment in Cocoa Communities in Ghana – Gender Assessment](#)
- Factsheet: [Supporting Gender Integration in Customary Land Documentation in Malawi](#)
- Factsheet: [Understanding Artisanal Mining Supply Chains and Conflict Financing in DRC](#)



The USAID-funded [Land for Prosperity](#) activity supports the Colombian government to improve the underlying conditions of rural households by strengthening land governance and stimulating licit economic development. The activity focuses on three major components: massive land titling and formalization; strengthening local government capacity for land administration; and integrating citizens to licit socioeconomic activities in priority regions.

Learn about this work in these recent blogs:

- ["We need to empower women with knowledge so they can raise their voices."](#)
  - [Property Titles: a Catalyst for Rural Development](#)
  - ["Considering the conflict's relationship with land tenure issues, this is a wonderful opportunity to repair the damage."](#)
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# New USAID Land & Resource Governance Research



[Mining and the Green Energy Transition: Review of International Development Challenges and Opportunities](#) - This report reviews the challenges and opportunities for donors such as USAID to engage in the mining sector in developing countries as it relates to the green energy transition. The study reviewed 16 minerals mined in USAID-presence countries that are projected to be particularly important, including 9 that are on the 2018 US Critical Minerals list. Download the full report [here](#). In addition, please find a [Summary for Policymakers here](#).



## LEVERAGING FORMAL LAND RIGHTS FOR CREDIT ACCESS

USAID Communications, Evidence, and Learning (CEL) Project – Land and Resource Governance

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[Leveraging Formal Land Rights for Credit Access](#) - Research findings and project-related anecdotal evidence identify a growing number of cases in which formalization has not enabled beneficiaries to use their land as collateral but has nonetheless led to improved credit outcomes. The aim of this research is to inform future USAID programming so that formal land rights can be used to better facilitate access to financing by smallholders and the urban poor, especially women.



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