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LANDLINKS

#LandMatters Newsletter May 2022

Dear Readers,

As we celebrate Earth Day and the launch of USAID’s 2022-2030 Climate Strategy, I am excited to share with you recent highlights from USAID’s Land and Resource Governance Division. Securing land rights underpins many of the conditions needed to safeguard environmental resources, like forests and watersheds, and promote pathways for climate mitigation. In this newsletter edition, we feature updates that include a video recording and a podcast of recent events that USAID participated in to celebrate International Women’s Day and promote awareness of the importance of securing women’s land rights. The newsletter also features an interview with USAID-Mozambique’s Women’s Land Rights Champion, Paula Pimentel, among other features. We hope that you enjoy it!

Stephen Brooks
Division Lead, USAID Land and Resource Governance Division



USAID Launches 2022-2030 Climate Strategy

USAID has released its new [2022-2030 Climate Strategy](#) that will guide the Agency's actions to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions and help partner countries build resilience to climate change. This whole-of-Agency approach will transform USAID's ongoing humanitarian and development work to advance equitable and ambitious actions to confront the climate crisis. To learn more about USAID's Climate Strategy, please visit [usaid.gov/climate/strategy](#). To access technical or knowledge resources, visit the [Climate Strategy Hub page](#) on Climatelinks. The Climate Strategy was informed by a [robust gender analysis](#) co-led by LRG and GenDev.

Strengthening Women's Land Rights



Groundbreakers: Women overcome bias and lead sustainable use of land and resources

In many countries men control who gets to use, own, and make decisions about land. Read the stories of women overcoming this challenge in India, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, and Zambia. Learn how, through the Integrated Land and Resource Governance (ILRG) activity, USAID is working to promote gender equality and women's economic empowerment by improving land tenure, resource governance, and making agroforestry value chains more inclusive.



[Using land rights to promote gender equality and fight gender-based violence](#)

In Tumaco, Colombia the USAID Land for Prosperity Activity works closely with the municipal government to streamline gender equality and social inclusion in local land policies and activities. The USAID-supported Municipal Land Office developed an articulated gender and land titling strategy to target women-headed households in urban settings.



Watch the video from the event [Frontiers: Women Leading Solutions to Climate Change](#).

To celebrate and recognize the 66th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), USAID and New America convened a virtual fireside chat with Anne-Marie Slaughter, CEO, New America; Gillian Caldwell, Chief Climate Officer, USAID; and Jamille Bigio, Senior Coordinator for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, USAID. The chat was followed by a panel discussion that explored the many ways women are leading solutions to critical land and natural resource management and climate change challenges.



Listen to the podcast from the event [Women, Deeds, and Dirt: Confront the Climate Crisis, Uproot Gender Inequality](#).

This side event to the 66th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) examined the intersection of women's land rights, sustainable land use, and the climate crisis. It featured Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry and USAID Chief Climate Officer Gillian Caldwell.

Meet a USAID Women's Land Rights Champions

In this series, we feature a Women's Land Rights Champion within USAID to spotlight work advancing women's land rights. Meet Champion Paula Pimentel, Senior Agricultural Specialist in USAID/Mozambique.



[Paula Pimentel, USAID/Mozambique](#) - *"In Mozambique and other African countries, land and natural resources are the most valuable economic asset for rural women. Being able to access and control land-related assets is critical for women's self-reliance and a pathway to economic growth."*

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



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 most recent publications:

- [Issue Brief: Natural Climate Solutions and Land and Resource Governance](#)
- [Gender-Based Violence in the Natural Resource Sector in Zambia](#)



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 event [Frontiers: Women Leading Solutions to Climate Change](#) highlighted above.



The USAID-funded [Land for Prosperity](#) activity supports 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:

- [Building a Healthy Land Market in Colombia](#)
- [“Having a home doesn’t make you rich, but not having one makes you very poor”](#)



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