



NELGA GOOD PRACTICES

Training Workshop on Effective Land Administration in Africa

Training workshop on effective land administration in Africa

A **training workshop on effective land administration in Africa** was held at United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) on 9 – 13 November 2017. The workshop was organized on behalf of the Network of Excellence on Land Governance in Africa (NELGA) by the Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), the African Land Policy Centre (ALPC), UN-Habitat and the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN).

The theme of the workshop **“Innovative Concepts, Tools and Practices for Effective Land Administration”** was focused on the implementation of Fit for Purpose (FFP) Frameworks in support of the African Union’s (AU) Agenda on Land and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through capacity development. The objectives of the workshop were to create a platform for learning and sharing key land administration cases, approaches, achievements and challenges as well as to learn innovative land concepts, tools and practices.

As a way forward the participants discussed opportunities for strengthening the role of NELGA in land administration issues in their countries and agreed on the need for in-country follow up workshops on land governance, the need for Massive Online Course (MOCC) and webinars on the innovative tools; and active inclusion of the private sector in future trainings, knowledge exchange and decision-making processes.

The results of the workshop were presented at the Conference on Land Policy in Africa 2017 organized by ALPC at UNECA in Addis Ababa, 14 – 17 November 2017 under the topic: “The Africa We Want: Achieving socioeconomic transformation through inclusive and equitable access to land by the youth”.



Participants during the group work. Photo: © RCMRD



Creating academia-policy-practice linkages by connecting participants with diverse background

The workshop brought together land officials, technical personnel, professionals, academia, lawyers, civil society organisations (CSO) and other actors from across the land sector for joint learning on innovative and effective land administration tools and practices for secure land rights and improved land governance in Africa.

In total, 30 participants from 14 countries participated in the training: Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Malawi, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sudan, South Sudan, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

The participants were drawn from various sectors including public, private and academia with the objective of strengthening academia-policy-practice linkages and knowledge exchange in land administration.



Learning innovative land concepts, tools and practices

During the workshop trainers presented innovative tools in land administration such as Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM) and Gender Evaluation Criteria (GEC).

The participants had a chance to practice the software and discuss possibilities of implementing the concepts in their research and practical work. The workshop highlighted the important role of technology and innovative approaches in land administration.

“The workshop content and coordination was excellent as it addressed different aspects of land administration and gave specific attention to gender issues”.

Workshop participant

“The best part of the training was experience sharing on land administration by participants from different countries”.

Workshop participant



Network of Excellence
on Land Governance in Africa

NELGA GOOD PRACTICES

Doctorate Degree on Land Governance at Bahir Dar University

Doctorate degree on land governance at Bahir Dar University

Bahir Dar University is the first university in Ethiopia that has a **doctorate degree on the topic of land policy and governance** on offer. For many years, the university has been a Centre of excellence for the education of professionals in land management and land administration. Through education and supervision of PhD candidates the university greatly contributes to research on land policy in Ethiopia as well as to capacity building for sustainable land management and efficient land administration.

In 2016 the SLGA programme supported the establishment of this doctorate degree on the topic of land policy in Ethiopia. A revision of the curricula was undertaken and recommendations for the adjustment of the programme in line with international standards and based on NELGA guidelines, were developed in cooperation with the Technical

University of Munich (TUM). TUM continues to support the implementation of the PhD programme, i.e. through guest lectures and by supervising PhD theses.

“The curricula of the PhD programme is designed in a fashion that, after completing the PhD programme, I can apply the acquired knowledge to actual problems faced by policymakers and stakeholders in the field of land governance and land administration. I would be very happy to apply this knowledge nationally and internationally”.

Solomon, Bahir Dar PhD scholarship holder



Photo: © RCMRD



Supporting young researchers through the NELGA scholarship programme

Moreover, scholarships for the new education programme in Bahir Dar are being granted through the NELGA scholarship programme together with the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). The programme is open for applications for postgraduates from all over Africa. Hereby young Africans

as well as cooperation and knowledge sharing between African universities are promoted. Currently 12 young PhD researchers at Bahir Dar University from Ethiopia and Rwanda benefit from the NELGA scholarship programme.

“The scholarship programme is very helpful in creating connections with global researchers. It helps in experience sharing, knowledge transfer and circulation and it supports me in my further career as a researcher. I hope therefore, that thanks to the programme I will be able to contribute to resolving some of the issues and conflicts related to land in Ethiopia”.

Firehiwot Gojjam Anley, Bahir Dar PhD scholarship holder



Innovative research and knowledge exchange

The PhD course enables young researchers from Eastern Africa to focus on such diverse topics as communal land rights, water use conflicts and urban-rural land use, property evaluation and sustainable land administration.

Through an interdisciplinary approach the PhD candidates not only become experts in their respective fields but also learn from and with each other.

“Most of the farmers in ET (more than 80 %) depend on communal land. However, this land nowadays is subject to different pressures from the government as well as local users themselves. The idea behind my thesis is to optimize governance arrangements that take into account the interest of the various stakeholders regarding communal land”.

Asmamaw, Bahir Dar PhD scholarship holder



NELGA

Network of Excellence
on Land Governance in Africa

NELGA GOOD PRACTICES

**Training Workshop
on Effective Land
Administration in Africa**





NELGA GOOD PRACTICES

Doctorate Degree on Land Governance at Bahir Dar University



Published by
Strengthening Advisory Capacities for
Land Governance in Africa (SLGA) Programme

Fitawrari Damtew Road
In front of AU Gate No. 3
P.O. Box 100009
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Tel.: +251 11 470 33 55

As at
January 2018

Responsible
Marc Nolting, Deutsche Gesellschaft für
Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Design/Layout
W4 Büro für Gestaltung, Frankfurt/Germany

SLGA is responsible for the content of this publication.