

## **BRIEF REPORT:**

### **Regional Workshop on Land Governance Scoping Study, Windhoek, Namibia, 26 – 28 June 2018**

#### **Background**

In June 2017, the Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST) as a NELGA node had envisaged in its work plan to conduct a Regional Scoping Study on Land Governance. This process was followed by consultations with regional partners and interested parties. These consultations resulted into a resolution to conduct a Land Governance Scoping Study conference in April 2019. It was agreed that representatives of academic institutions from 10 Southern African countries would be involved in these study. These countries are; Namibia, South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi, Lesotho, Mozambique, eSwatini (former Swaziland) and Angola.

#### **The Regional Workshop on Land Governance Scoping Study**

In preparation for the conference next year, a 3-day regional workshop on land governance scoping study was conducted on 26 – 28 June 2018 in Windhoek, Namibia. The key objectives of the workshop were to; discuss and adopt the research template, to select and confirm study teams and to discuss the methodologies and timelines for the study outputs.

This workshop was attended by about 37 participants in general from academic institutions, government and development partners. Representatives of 15 academic institutions from 7 Southern African countries attended the workshop. The countries represented and universities were;

- Namibia (Namibia University of Science and Technology & University of Namibia)
- South Africa (University of Pretoria, University of Venda and University of the Western Cape)
- Botswana (University of Botswana and Ba Isago University)
- Zimbabwe (University of Zimbabwe and Sam Moyo Institute for Agrarian Studies)
- Zambia (University of Zambia and University of Lusaka)
- Malawi (University of Malawi and Polytechnic University of Malawi)
- Lesotho (National University of Lesotho)

The main achievements of the 3-day workshop are as follows;

- i) the research template was discussed in detail and was adopted,
- ii) there was consensus on the timelines for outputs,
- iii) there was agreement on the study methodology
- iv) partner institutions committed to conduct national/country scoping studies
- v) preliminary selections of 7 study/country teams was done and will be confirmed in July 2018

#### **Conclusion and the way forward**

The node is currently planning to conduct regional visits to three (3) countries (Mozambique, eSwatini and Angola) which were not represented at the workshop to allow the relevant representatives of academic institutions in these countries the opportunity to participate in the study. The workshop was concluded with a panel discussion on cross border/country land governance matters and a city tour and visit to the heroes' acre.