



Ministry of Foreign Affairs

LAND-at-scale Annual Report 2025 and Strategic Plan 2026

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International.*

LAND-at-scale Annual Report 2025 and Strategic Plan 2026



LAND-at-scale Burundi, 2025

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Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands



Netherlands Enterprise Agency

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1. Vision and Mission

The main mission of the LAND-at-scale (LAS) programme is to strengthen sustainable and inclusive land governance. This is essential for food security, economic development, peace, stability, and achieving gender equality and climate goals. The programme aims to create structural change and promote just land governance on a large scale in low- and middle-income countries, regions and landscapes.

For the LAS programme, 2026 will be an exciting year. The first phase of LAS is entering its final year and the second phase has started already in early 2026. An important goal for LAS in 2026 will therefore be to complete project implementation of its first phase, including responsible phasing out and finding opportunities for scaling beyond the duration of LAS phase 1 projects. Another main priority is to ensure a smooth move to the second phase by reflecting on the first phase and using lessons learnt in the updated framework. Finally, new projects will start to take shape under phase 2.

2. Looking back at 2025

In 2025, LAS completed activities in 3 project countries: Mali, Rwanda and Somalia. In other project countries, including Colombia, Iraq and Mozambique, LAS activities were partially completed. The programme ended 2025 with 9 countries in the portfolio. On page 9, you will find an overview of our project portfolio. This includes a short explanation of activities in each project country, including a highlight of activities and developments of 2025.

Important events of 2025

In 2025, there were many regional and international conferences related to land governance. This gave LAS the opportunity to share lessons learnt, discuss results and learn from other stakeholders after 6 years of implementation. Below are some major events from 2025. You can find highlights per project for each project country in Annex I on page 9.

LAS at the Arab Land Conference and Regional Learning Exchange

2025 started with the Arab Land Conference hosted in Morocco from 18 to 20 February, followed by a LAS Regional Learning Exchange. The conference looked into land as the foundation of livelihoods, economic stability and social justice. During the conference, policymakers, experts and civil society organisations discussed pressing land challenges in the region. LAS supported its partners from Iraq, Egypt, Palestinian Territories and Somalia to participate in the conference.

The LAS partners hosted several side-sessions, demonstrating their lessons learnt in Housing, Land and Property (HLP) rights and land use consolidation. The session “The role of knowledge management in advancing land governance reforms” was particularly insightful.

Partners from the 4 present countries reflected on how shared knowledge and exchange between countries can be a tool and an inspiration for adaptive programming. The session reflected on examples of adaptive programming through findings in longitudinal studies, working with academia and gaining new insights from land experts worldwide. You can [view the session recording on YouTube](#).

After the conference, the 4 countries held an in-depth regional learning exchange. You can read the important reflections from this meeting [on the Land Portal](#).

LAS at the World Bank Land Conference

The World Bank Land Conference took place from 5 to 8 May, 2025, in Washington D.C. The theme was "Securing Land Tenure and Access for Climate Action: Moving from Awareness to Action". Together with several partners, LAS organised a session titled "Strengthening Land Governance for Climate Resilience: Strategies and Lessons from East and Southern Africa". The session brought together experts and practitioners from across the region to unpack a powerful and urgent question: How can securing land tenure help communities respond to climate change?

Drawing on grassroots interventions and longitudinal research from the LAS programme, panelists shared compelling case studies from Uganda, Burundi, Mozambique and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Despite their differing contexts, the message was clear: Land governance and climate resilience are deeply intertwined, and with integrated community-based strategies, strengthening one will strengthen the other. [Read more about the session and the conference on the Land Portal](#).

LAS Exchange in Colombia

From 13 to 19 June, 2025, the 4th edition of the LAS Exchange took place in Colombia. This is the annual LAS partner meet-up and learning event. The first 3 days in Santa Marta were hosted by LAS partners Conexión Colombia, Kadaster International and Tropenbos Colombia. Nearly 50 LAND-at-scale country and knowledge partners exchanged lessons learnt, deepened collaboration and explored shared challenges in securing land rights through inclusive governance. All active LAS project countries were represented during the exchange, and participants engaged in a variety of sessions that built on local expertise and global dialogue.

The theme of this year's exchange was "Land governance as a basis for broader sustainable development". Participants explored the connections between tenure security, environmental stewardship and inclusive economic growth. Following the sessions in Santa Marta, participants travelled to Bogotá to join the Global Land Forum, hosted by the International Land Coalition. There, LAS partners connected their insights to broader international debates. The week concluded with a joint reflection session, linking learnings from both events and identifying practical pathways forward. [Read more about the lessons learnt during the exchange on the Land Portal](#).

LAS at the LANDac Conference

The 11th LANDac Conference, with 32 parallel sessions, took place from 2 to 4 July, 2025, in Utrecht, The Netherlands. The title of the conference was "Plurality of Knowledge: The

Future of Land Governance in Shifting Glocal Contexts”. Participants from around the world discussed collaboration, impact of knowledge, migration, post-conflict land governance and local approaches. [Read more about the conference on the Land Portal.](#)

The conference was dedicated to sharing the rich learnings of over 5 years of collaboration within the LAS programme. , Participants used lessons learnt to inform how land governance can contribute towards equality and justice in an increasingly polarising world. One of the conference sessions critically reflected on the 5-year experience of collaboration and knowledge management within the LAS programme. You can find main takeaways from this session [on the Land Portal](#)

LAS at the GIZ Land Hub and closure of 10 years of Sustainable Land Governance Programme

GIZ and BMZ organised 3 days of exchange in Berlin, to festively close 10 years of its Sustainable Land Governance Programme (SLGP) in combination with its annual partner learning exchange (Land Hub). Participants shared lessons learnt from the programme and worked towards the design of a new German-funded global land programme. Particular programme outputs and learnings that LAS can build on included the outcomes of the knowledge management work and lessons learnt on monitoring and evaluation of land programmes. Moving forward, LAS and GIZ, together with FCDO’s Land Facility, intend to find ways to work closer together.

LAS at the Conference of Land Policy in Africa (CLPA)

Across Africa, conflict, climate change and political instability continue to drive forced displacement at unprecedented levels. As people are forced to leave their homes, whether as refugees or internally displaced persons (IDPs), questions of land access, tenure security and coexistence with host communities become central to peace, resilience and long-term development. But land governance systems are often ill-equipped to manage these pressures, particularly in fragile contexts where customary and formal systems overlap. There are clear opportunities to adapt to displacement through strengthened land governance and to reduce displacement.

This challenge was the focus of one of the side sessions hosted at the Conference of Land Policy in Africa (CLPA), which took place from 10 to 13 November, 2025, in Addis Ababa, on “Strengthening Land governance for Displaced Communities”. The session brought together experiences from the LAS programme in Uganda, Mozambique and Chad and created space for practitioners, policymakers and civil society actors to reflect on what works and what still needs to change when land governance meets displacement. You can find the lessons learnt [on the Land Portal](#).

3. Looking forward to 2026 and beyond

In 2026, the LAS programme works on its main 3 pillars: Projects, knowledge management and coordination and collaboration. This section contains elements of the current LAND-at-scale programme (main activities rounding off at the end of 2026) and the next phase of the programme (2026-2033).

Programme objectives

One of the main goals of 2026 is to ensure a smooth transition from the first phase of LAS to the second phase. Findings and experiences from the first phase, from the programme, projects, insights from knowledge management and conclusions from the 2023 mid-term review have been used to design the new programme. The main pillars of LAND-at-scale are the following:

1. Project portfolio
2. Knowledge management
3. Coordination and collaboration

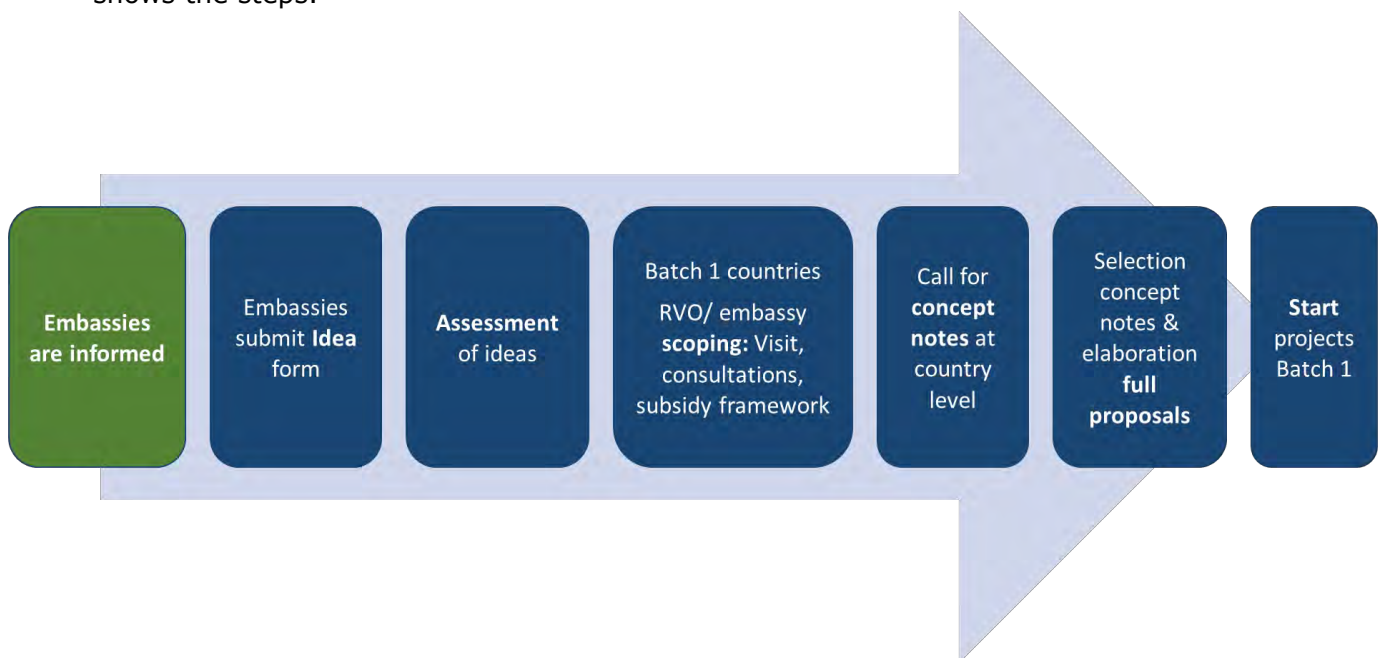
Project Portfolio

We will focus on finishing and phasing out activities in project countries from the current programme responsibly. We have already fully finished activities in Mali, Rwanda and Somalia. In the other countries, parts of the programming have been completed. This means that activities are still running in 9 countries.

In 2024, we held systematic discussions with all partners to plan this phase-out. Together, we identified which project activities are consolidated and opportunities for better integrating project activities in existing structures and procedures. We also reflected honestly and openly on scaling up, scaling out, scaling in and scaling deep. These discussions are also part of our finalisation of project activities.

LAND-at-scale phase 2

While we finish current projects, we have also started the second phase. The figure below shows the steps.



Important steps for 2026 include¹:

1. **Idea submission by embassies:** Embassies of the Netherlands from the LAS country submitted ideas in early 2026.
2. **Assessment of ideas:** The Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO) selected the best ideas for further research in February and March.
3. **Scoping:** Scoping missions will take place in selected countries. During the scoping mission, RVO will invite international and in-country stakeholders to discuss priorities in the land governance sector and find out what support is needed. RVO will inform and invite stakeholders about such opportunities for engagement via the LAS newsletter, LinkedIn page and email lists.
4. **Development of call for concept notes:** RVO will develop a 'Call for Concept Notes'. The call will focus on the problem analysis and the impact we want to achieve. With the support of external experts with regional and thematic expertise, we will critically evaluate the call before publishing.
5. **Publishing the call for concept notes:** RVO will publish the call via the LAS newsletter, LinkedIn page, Land Portal news alert, email lists, available in-country communication channels and the relevant embassy websites. The call is open to everyone with the required expertise and experience.
6. **Assessment of concept notes:** We will ask partners with the best ideas to develop full project plans.

We will publish the calls for ideas throughout 2026 and in 2027. The first projects are expected to start in early 2027. To stay up to date, please follow our communication channels or subscribe via landatscale@rvo.nl

Knowledge Management

Knowledge Management (KM) is a crucial part of the LAS programme, supporting land governance objectives by learning, generating, managing and sharing experiences. KM supports adaptive programming, contributes to ensuring sustainability and scalability, and promotes learning and knowledge exchange across the programme.

In 2025, we finished 2 out of 4 of our KM work from the current LAS programme:

1. Academic research carried out by LANDac; and
2. In-country knowledge-sharing and embedding by the International Land Coalition.

Results from academic activities by LANDac include an overall synthesis study of 4 years of academic collaboration in LAS, several papers and conferences and knowledge sharing events. Research papers and longitudinal studies [can be found in the Land Governance publications archive](#).

¹ Please note this is an estimated timeline and dates might change.

In 2026, country-specific activities by the KIT institute and communication activities, like webinars and blogs by Land Portal will accompany project partners until the finalisation of their project. With that work, KIT and Land Portal support partners in providing a place for documenting lessons learnt and opportunities for scaling (KIT), while providing the Land Portal as a platform for sharing and discussing the project outcomes and insights.

Since 2024, LAS has also offered project partners the opportunity for so-called Country Research Ideas. Partners were invited to submit action-oriented research ideas that would contribute to their adaptive programming. This component of KM has been very successful, with a total of 12 short and focused research initiatives completed in 2024 and 2025. One example is a research initiative in Uganda which looked into the climate aspects of the LAS work and translated the insights into policy recommendations for a new climate policy.

In 2026 LAS will gather insights and lessons from the programme to build a new framework for knowledge management in the second phase. These activities will include an ex-post study where we will return to several areas where LAS activities have been concluded to evaluate lasting impact from these activities. A study will look into the results of a decade of land governance support in Burundi.

Finally, we look forward to our 5th LAS Exchange, which we expect to host in September 2026. This will be followed by a larger LANDdialogue event later in the year. The goal of the event is to discuss land rights and sustainable land use challenges and opportunities in relation to the private and financial sector. LAS will take the opportunity of the LANDdialogue event to actively promote principles for good land governance among partners and other stakeholders within the LAS programme. This will include [VGGT](#) and [CFS-RAI](#) principles, [OECD](#) guidelines, [IFC](#) performance standards, and [CSRD](#), [CSDD](#) and [EUDR](#) directives.

Coordination and collaboration

The third pillar of our work in 2026 is coordination and collaboration, at the country-level and at the global level. We will integrate part of this work into the project portfolio and knowledge management programme pillars. For example, while identifying, scoping and formulating programmes, we will pay attention to opportunities of in-country scaling and synergies with other development partners. In terms of knowledge management, we will explore synergies with other global land programmes and their KM work. At the global level, we will contribute to ongoing initiatives such as the Global Action on Land and the Global Donor Working Group on Land. Through these platforms, LAS wants to show how land governance helps achieve goals under frameworks and agreements such as the SDGs and the Rio Conventions on climate, biodiversity and desertification.

In 2026, LAS will also actively work on setting up or re-igniting our earlier work with the Dutch private and finance sectors. For example, in 2024 we organised a well-attended and positively received event with companies and banks, at which we jointly explored challenges and opportunities related to land governance. In phase 2, LAS will pick up this work more systematically, including elements of capacity building on specific topics (for example, Free, Prior and Informed Consent, due diligence and do no harm approaches) and provide a platform for exchange and joint learning.

Annex I Portfolio overview

Middle East and Northern Africa Region

Egypt



Participatory land-use consolidation for climate resilience and inclusive business models

Agriculture in Egypt, in particular Upper Egypt, is characterised by smallholder farming. With a growing population and 4% of cultivatable land concentrated along the Nile River, land fragmentation poses a substantial challenge, worsened by limited land and water resources. This fragmentation results in the subdivision of agricultural land into smaller, irregular parcels, leading to the inability to carry out sustainable crop management, including pest control and efficient water use.

This project aims to reduce land fragmentation through participatory land use consolidation (LUC) for climate resilience and inclusive business models, increase the productivity and income of smallholder farmers, and strengthen the institutional capacity of main institutions on land governance aspects. [Read more about this project on the Land Portal.](#)



Developments in 2025

In 2025, the LAS project in Egypt made progress in developing inclusive governance structures for land use consolidation (LUC) farmer groups, addressing joint decision-making, conflict resolution mechanisms and linkages to the private sector (input and output actors). A number of LUC farmer organisations were launched. The main summer crops are basil, mint, sesame and soybeans and the winter crops are fennel, basil, peppermint, onion, garlic, anis and marjoram.

The project combined field-level implementation with extensive outreach and capacity building. Until December 2025, over 3,250 farmers received technical support in farmer field schools, reaching up to 10,400 small-scale food producers indirectly. A large-scale digital awareness campaign including the LUC approach reached more than 500,000 users, with **targeted messaging increasing women's participation. Women's leadership** also advanced, with 2 LUC groups led by women farmers, one consisting of 21 women farmers.

Furthermore, private sector engagement expanded significantly and digital innovations, applied research, and regional knowledge exchange further strengthened adaptive programming, positioning the project for scaling and deeper impact in the coming years.

Implementation phase

Dates: 2024-2026
Budget: €1.5 million
Partner: GIZ Egypt

Iraq



Policy dialogue on legislative reform to improve land governance and secure tenure rights by registering and resolving land claims for vulnerable IDPs in Iraq

Iraq has experienced several waves of mass displacement over the last forty years that have caused an intricate land and property situation. Land and property challenges have further been complicated by multiple causes of property loss, including **expropriation by the Ba'ath regime, terrorism**, sectarian violence, military operations, economic hardship and a general climate of fear. LAND-at-scale in Iraq consists of 2 complementary projects. First, UN-Habitat will initiate and conduct national policy dialogue

Implementation phase

Dates: 2023-2026
Budget: €2.1 million
Partners: UN-Habitat (ongoing) and The Hague Institute of Innovation of Law (HIIL) (finalised)

on the reform of laws related to land governance to address challenges faced by Iraqis. Also, UN-Habitat will contribute to securing tenure and protect housing, land and property (HLP) rights by registering and resolving land claims of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and returnees in war-affected governorates in Sinjar. Secondly, HIIL will identify existing small-scale initiatives addressing HLP issues in Sinjar and support these for further scaling and explore integration in the policy dialogue. [Read more about this project on the Land Portal.](#)



Developments in 2025

The LAS project in Iraq is implemented with HIIL and UN-Habitat, combining justice innovation, policy dialogue and support to vulnerable populations. HIIL finalised its project component in early 2025, supporting 4 local justice innovations focused on HLP rights. These included training **lawyers on Yazidi women’s land rights, developing Arabic digital tools on HLP and compensation laws** and establishing a mobile legal clinic in Sinjar. The initiatives were well-integrated into broader programming through a referral system of cases to UN-Habitat and engagement of the local initiatives in national policy dialogue. The initiatives also attracted interest from other donors such as GIZ and IOM.

UN-Habitat continues implementation until the end of 2026. Its programme has 2 complementary components:

1. A national-level policy dialogue on land laws and regulations, jointly coordinated with the Iraqi government and the EU Delegation, and
2. A localised component in Sinjar focused on registering and resolving land claims and compensation claims for internally displaced people (IDPs) using the Social Tenure Domain Model.

Together, these aim to strengthen land governance, institutional capacity and tenure security for IDPs and returnees. Close to 10,000 IDPs have secured their tenure rights to land, while 1,676 IDPs have been assisted to file compensation claims based on their land certificates.

Palestinian Territories



Improving land governance for Palestinian farmers
Palestinian farmers in the West Bank mainly engage in low-intensity agriculture. Despite great agricultural potential, the prospect of losing access to the land impacts negatively on the willingness of farmers to invest in sustainable agricultural intensification.

The project aims to increase land tenure security for Palestinian farmers, with a strong emphasis on women, by improvement of the land governance system through the provision of technical and legal support. Attention is given to formal and informal inheritance practices and raising **awareness of women’s land rights**. [Read more about this project on the Land Portal.](#)



Developments in 2025

In 2025, LAS partners continued working on the improvement of land tenure security in an increasingly difficult context. Emphasis is given to capacity building for Palestinian institutions working on land governance. Another component of the work focuses on academic coordination and setting up a Knowledge Management component for integrating lessons learnt in the project into university curricula.

Implementation phase

Dates: 2020-2026
Budget: €3.2 million

Partners: Land Research Center (LRC) in collaboration with Jerusalem Legal Aid and Human Rights Center (JLAC) and St. Yves

Horn of Africa and Great Lakes Regions

Burundi



An integrated approach towards improved tenure security and land governance

Burundi copes with an increasing scarcity of land as a result of increasing population size, returnees and internally displaced people and climate change. With the majority of Burundians depending on agriculture for their food and livelihoods, land scarcity makes this reliance on agriculture precarious.

The project aims to improve tenure security of women and men, conflict resolution and to create the basis for improved agricultural production, access to justice and sustainable, climate-smart agri-business. [Read more about this project on the Land Portal.](#)



Developments in 2025

The 3rd year of the LAS project in Burundi marked a critical phase in **strengthening land tenure security and governance in Burundi's Nyanza-Lac district**. For example, the SFC (local land offices) staff received hands-on training and practical reinforcement on the complete land certification workflow. As a result, the SFC now independently manages the complete land data processing cycle, from data entry and validation to certificate production, without requiring ongoing technical support from the project team.

The project also advanced dispute resolution through multi-stakeholder **mediation, addressed women's land rights through awareness and leadership initiatives** and linked tenure security with agricultural development.

Implementation phase

Dates: 2021-2026

Budget: €5.8 million

Partners: ZOA, VNG International, MIPAREC and LADEC

Rwanda



Towards a fair and robust land use management and governance system connecting people for sustainable livelihoods

Despite the Land Tenure Reform Programme that gained international attention for its success in 2009, the system still faces challenges. The land administration and information system does not yet sufficiently address social aspects, such as incorporating informal transactions and safeguards for women, or reducing high costs of participation. Land disputes remain common.

The project aimed to improve and ensure sustainability of land registration and management systems and their implementing institutions for enhanced perceived and actual tenure security for the people of Rwanda. [Read more about this project on the Land Portal.](#)



Developments in 2025

The LAS project in Rwanda comprises 2 integrated projects under a single Theory of Change, implemented by Kadaster International (KI) and IDLO. **Both KI's and IDLO's** activities have been completed.

Significant success was achieved under Strategy 1B, where the National Land Authority (NLA) expressed high satisfaction with the Land Administration and Information System (LAIS). NLA IT staff received on-the-job training and independently manage the system. The business plan has been partially adopted by NLA. Full approval is pending at the

Completed

Dates: 2021-2025

Budget: €2.5 million (excl. 99k

RVO Private Sector Development Toolkit contribution to IDLO)

Partners: Kadaster International and International Development Law Organization (IDLO)

Rwandan Ministry of Finance. Nevertheless, selected revenue streams, such as fees for network access and land information services, were **approved, representing an important step toward NLA's long-term financial sustainability.**

Furthermore, KI directly reviewed 5 District Land Use Plans (DLUPs), all of which NLA accepted. **KI's feedback informed the development of an extra 20 DLUPs, bringing the total to 25 out of 30 districts and covering 83% of Rwanda's land area.** What remains an important challenge is the necessity of citizen awareness. A digital feedback tool was developed with ESRI, enabling citizen input, monitoring, and compliance. The tool and was successfully launched with user training.

Under the IDLO component, all Abunzi in 2 pilot districts were trained, covering 196 committees. Across the project, 1,432 individuals received training in conflict resolution. The Land Dispute Management System (LDMS) was launched and integrated with national justice and land systems, effectively linking land administration with access to justice and preventing land transactions on disputed land.

Workshops supported digital innovation and the development of an NLA Vision 2050. MSc curricula and MoUs with academic institutions aimed to strengthen the pipeline of land governance professionals.

Somalia



Saameynta, land governance solutions to prevent displacement Somalia has over 3.8 million internally displaced people (IDPs) following decades of civil war and violent conflict. Also, a significant increase of droughts and floods due to climate change have forced people away from **their rural homes. Most IDPs have relocated in Somalia's cities making it** the most rapidly urbanising country in the world, with unplanned city development, and speculation in land markets. This situation has spurred continuous displacements and forced evictions of IDPs, preventing them from building a sustainable livelihood.

This project aimed to contribute to a sustainable integration of IDPs in the Somali cities Baidoa, and Bosaso and scoping in Beletweyne. Local governments, IDPs and host communities were supported to contribute to a process of inclusive urban development and to apply land value capture for infrastructure development and basic services.

Completed

Dates: 2022-2025
 Budget: **€2 million**
 Partners:
 International Organization for Migration (IOM),
 United Nations Development Programme (UNDP),
 UN-Habitat, Regional coordination Office Somalia (RCO)

Read more about this project on the Land Portal.



Developments in 2025

Activities within the LAS project in Somalia have been concluded. Several major achievements stand out in the project areas of Baidoa and Bosaso. One is the establishment of the Social Tenure Domain Model, which has reached over 5,000 IDP families and recorded over 8,000 land and property transactions since January 2025. This strengthened the shared understanding of housing, land and property rights and enabled inclusive, fit-for-purpose land administration.

In Baidoa, the project supported the development and enactment of standard operating procedures for land registration. Also, it provided technical assistance to finalise an Urban Regulatory Framework following the Urban Land Management Law. In Bosaso, the project assisted in drafting a by-law which introduces progressive property taxation through a banding system that is aimed at equitable revenue generation.

Finally, the project supported housing solutions, including drafting a national housing policy, focused on equity and inclusion, while contributing to climate resilience by decongesting displacement camps. One of the main challenges the project faced was the indirect effect of funding cuts from international donor programmes.

Uganda



Scaling up community-based land registration and land use planning to contribute to increasing food security
 Uganda wants to transform from a predominantly low-income agricultural economy to a modern and prosperous country in 2040. Land is widely recognised **as a pivotal element of Uganda's economic and social transformation**, as evidenced by the government ambition to improve tenure security and systematically title all land by 2040.
 The project aims to contribute to the development of a structured and scalable approach towards improved tenure security and sustainable land use for men, women, and youth on customary land, which is obtained using fit-for-purpose and participatory tools and approaches. [Read more about the project on the Land Portal.](#)

Implementation phase

Dates: 2022-2026
 Budget: €3.4 million
 Partners: Global Land Tool Network, UCOBAC, Makerere University and IIRR



Developments in 2025
 The LAS project in Uganda will run until September 2026. Implemented across 3 regions: Southwestern Uganda, West Nile and the Kyoga Plain, the main goal of the project is to improve land tenure security for smallholder farmers and strengthen land use planning through capacity building and awareness.

In 2025, significant progress has been made in securing tenure for men, women and youth. The project has advanced sustainable and climate-smart land and wetland use planning, mostly through efforts with the goal to improve land use rights mapping. Also, advocacy efforts focused on fit-for-purpose land tools and decentralised land administration.

Knowledge management and learning initiatives further supported policy dialogue, peer learning and international exchange to promote inclusive, gender-responsive and climate resilient land governance.

Sahel and West Africa region

Burkina Faso



Scaling up land governance for food security
 Burkina Faso deals with many crises: Food insecurity, climate vulnerability and massive population displacement. Land plays a critical factor in all these crises. The LAND-at-scale project aims to improve food security and resilience of women and youth by securing their access to land and strengthening land governance and management practices. [Read more about the project on the Land Portal.](#)

Implementation phase

Dates: 2022-2026
 Budget: €2 million
 Partners: Nitidae, ONF-BF, Oxfam Burkina Faso



Developments in 2025
 The LAS project in Burkina Faso aims to improve household food security by strengthening access to land for vulnerable women and youth. It does

this through a set of interconnected interventions that reinforce each other. This approach results in raised awareness and enforced capacity around land rights. Furthermore, the project supports local land governance systems to formalise land access and promotes productive use of land to improve livelihoods.

Also, coordination and collaboration among local, national and international stakeholders is emphasised to ensure coherence, learning and sustainability. Results from 2025 show that the project is positively received and that it improves access to land, improves sustainable use of resources and enhances food security.

Chad



Land reform based on rapid evolutions and present crisis
Chad is at the verge of an emerging land tenure crisis. Land conflicts are abundant, caused by degradation and transformation of land surfaces as a result of climate change, and land investments by domestic investors with disputed legitimacy. The project aims to contribute to a more transparent and inclusive land administration system, especially for tenure insecure groups (women and youth), which creates security for communities to invest in sustainable income-generating activities. [Read more about the project on the Land Portal](#) and [watch a video](#).

Implementation phase

Dates: 2020-2026
Budget: €4.2 million
Partners: Kadaster International, Oxfam Novib, Oxfam Intermon, FAO



Developments in 2025
Part of the LAS project in Chad finalised in December 2024. In 2025, result evaluation was a focus of the project. The main results include finalisation and submission of a national land policy for improved land governance, increased advocacy capacity for civil society organisations, increased access to land for women and youth, professionalisation and improvement of land conflict resolution and increased transparency around statistics on access to land for women and youth.

Mali



Boosting local capacity to manage land conflicts and protect customary rights
The goal of the intervention was to promote stability, food security, climate-resilient agricultural development and natural resources management. This was achieved by strengthening security of access to and rights over land and natural resources, with special attention to inclusivity (especially women and pastoralists). The project worked through the establishment and capacity-building of Malian Land Commissions. [Read more about the project on the Land Portal](#).

Completed

Dates: 2021-2023
Budget: €1.3 million
Partners: SNV, KIT, Université des Sciences Juridiques et Politiques de Bamako, Coordination Nationale des Organisations Paysannes.



Developments in 2025
The LAS project in Mali finalised its activities in 2024. The project strengthened the performance and capacity of community land management committees at the municipal and village levels. This resulted in an improved institutional landscape, which contributes to the peaceful management of land conflicts in rural areas in the country, increasing access to agropastoral land, especially for women.

The evaluation highlighted serious challenges encountered during the project, mostly related to ongoing issues with security issues in the project area, and provided valuable lessons and recommendations for future projects.

Other regions

Colombia



Land formalisation through a Fit-for-Purpose approach in Indigenous and Afro-Colombian areas, integrating economic empowerment and natural resources protection and Booster Simplifying Colombia's Rural Land Administration

In Colombia's post-conflict context, access to land and tenure security are still a cause of many conflicts and inequalities. Especially Indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities are amongst the most vulnerable groups in Colombia. The project aims to complete and simplify the multi-purpose cadaster by efficiently and fairly gathering information on land titles and natural resources of indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities. This will help communities feel secure to invest in sustainable income-generating activities in these areas.

Combining improved tenure security with income-generating activities and protecting natural resources results in an integrated approach, tackling multiple issues at the same time. LAND-at-scale has activities in 3 pilot areas: Gunmaku, La Teofila and Los Riscuales. LAND-at-scale activities in Colombia consist of 2 projects, the first having been completed in June 2025 and the Booster extending the work of Kadaster International into the legal application of Fit-for-Purpose (FFP) until May 2026. [Read more about the project on the Land Portal.](#)



Developments in 2025

The first project in Colombia has successfully demonstrated the direct linkages between land tenure security, income generation and natural resource management. The project completed activities in 3 regions. Major achievements per region are as follows.

In La Teófila, indigenous communities worked together with the National Land Agency to correct and expand their reserve boundaries, while also creating a new reserve using community-led mapping under the Fit-For-Purpose approach. This strengthened land use rights, improved livelihoods and supported restoration of the natural environment. All in all, recognised and protected territory increased from around 1,300 hectares to about 29,000 hectares.

In Gunmaku, capacity building in land measurement, GIS and environmental knowledge empowered indigenous youth, supported preservation of natural resources and even enabled independent marketing 14 tons of specialty coffee.

In Los Riscuales, local communities strengthened environmental governance for over 31,000 hectares, explored economic opportunities linked to tourism and gastronomy and advanced carbon finance initiatives.

In parallel, a LAS booster project started early 2025 where the main focus of 2025 has been building institutional buy-in for a multi-purpose cadastre.

Implementation phase

Dates: 2020-2026

Budget: €2.2 million

Partners:

Kadaster International (ongoing), ICCO Conexion (finalised), Tropenbos International (finalised)

Mozambique



Scaling climate-resilient community land certification and legal literacy

Mozambique has a progressive Land Law, that recognises **people’s high dependence on agriculture and natural resources**. However, main **obstacles to the proper implementation of the law include communities’ lack of formalised land tenure, limited knowledge of land rights, low participation in decision-making by community members and a lack of capacity among local government officials**. The situation is further hampered by the severe impacts of climate change.

The main objective of the intervention is to increase community legal awareness and strengthen land tenure security by delimiting community and individual land-use rights and integrating them into the formal system.

[Read more about the project on the Land Portal.](#)



Developments in 2025

In 2025, both LAS projects continued their contracted activities applying a similar approach in the buffer zones of Gorongosa National Park. The Embassy of the Netherlands requested this, and the projects worked in full **coordination with the embassies’ food security programming** in the same area. Working with both organisations in the same geographical areas made thematic and operational coordination easier. As a result, working in parallel on community land certification and legal literacy became even more valuable.

The year also brought increased momentum for land tenure security in Mozambique, with a new land law sent to parliament and renewed interest and effort from stakeholders in land governance.

Implementation phase

Dates: 2021-2026

Budget: €2.3 million

Partners: Centro Terra Viva (CTV) and Terra Firma

For questions, please reach out to landatscale@rvo.nl

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