



AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT GENDER AND LAND IN AFRICA
CAPE TOWN 5-7 MARCH 2014



Government Working Group


Recommendations

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**To ensure investments
which are inclusive and
gender equitable**

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African governments have leverage:

- negotiate from a position of strength
- can choose desirable investments
- say ‘no’ to practices that do not engender equitable development
- Remain in the driving seat

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Establish enabling policy framework

- prevent corruption
- enact and enforce laws
- prioritize gender sensitive investments
 - Mainstream gender in all plans of government
- Empower non-executive arms of government and other stakeholders to play their role
- Remove hindrances (e.g. discrimination) to all stakeholders playing their role
- Access to justice:
 - institutions functioning
 - Participation and inclusion to discourage corruption and increase transparency
 - hard talk among ourselves about the actual desirability on these investments and their impacts

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Mainstream Gender Considerations

- Focus on **practical** interventions to ensure gender mainstreaming?
Be specific – make it ‘doable’ e.g.
 - Programmes and plans should be gender sensitive
 - Empowering women economically in order to secure their land rights
 - Improve gender dynamics at household levels through community work
- Address capacity constraints
- Creating conducive fora (how to sustain these? What resources – need balance between donor resources and domestic allocations)
- Inter-ministerial coordination key – Departments of Gender have critical role in ensuring / advocating for mainstreaming

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Empower citizens

- Enhance capacity for economic policy at all levels including communities
- Change school curricula to raise awareness
- Place smallholders at the centre of rural development
- Increase downward accountability of central government to citizens
 - Recognize and empower the oversight role of parliaments
 - *Coherence* between policies of government versus those of political parties

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Link to Regional and Global Frameworks

- Domesticate international standards
 - FAO Voluntary Guidelines
 - AU Framework and Guidelines etc.
- Align national policies with regional protocols

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Role of Other Actors

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Role of CSO

Government should create space for CSO (or support their establishment where necessary) to provide the following:

- alternative view
- Build capacity of communities, farmers associations etc. - on their rights, content of laws etc.
- Facilitate gvt relations with private sector
- Can provide role of intermediary between government and communities – channel communication
- Provide evidence of impact which can be used to inform policy
- Keep governments in check
- Play service delivery role, provide technical support and provide funding for development initiatives
- BUT – how to keep CSO from behaving like opposition

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Role of Private Sector

- Provide finance for investment
- Provide **fair** compensation for land and or other resources lost by communities in the interests of the investment (e.g. pastures; forests; water)
- Honor agreements entered
- Technology transfer
- Provide for gender related initiatives
- Provide social amenities **as part of CSR not compensation for land**
- Technical advise and inputs to farmers
- Employment opportunities
- Foreign exchange; taxes
- Infrastructure development

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Role of Farmer Associations

Farmer Unions (organized labour) – should be active players in the process

- Mobilize farmers
- Pioneer the interests of farmers
- Negotiate on behalf of farmers
- Be accountable to their membership
- Facilitate access to markets
- Service provision to farmers
- Be gender sensitive
 - establish threshold levels for women in their leadership
 - Educate farmers on gender issues

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Importance of Implementation

- Is there political will?
 - A key issue
 - Determines balance between political agendas and implementation of policies
- Is the capacity there?

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Resources

- Government has the responsibility to ensure availability
- The more limited the resources are, the more pronounced the agendas
- Gender responsive budgets at the level of Finance Ministries
- Budgets are dependent on existing plans – so gender analysis during planning is key

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