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PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OF THE COMMUNITY LAND PROTECTION PROGRAM (CLPP) IN ZAMBIA

BACKGROUND

The Community Land Protection Program (CLPP) in Liberia is being implemented by the Sustainable Development Initiative (SDI), a local Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), with support from US-based NGO, Namati. CLPP promotes an integrated community land protection model, supporting communities to leverage community land documentation processes in order to create positive intra-community changes leading to enhanced agricultural productivity, entrepreneurship, and employment. The main components of CLPP include: community empowerment through legal education on rights and responsibilities; boundary harmonization and conflict resolution; and documentation and formalization of community natural resource governance structures. The activities under evaluation are being implemented in the Lofa, River Gee, and Maryland counties of Liberia.

THE EVALUATION DESIGN

USAID, in partnership with Namati, is supporting the implementation of a rigorous performance evaluation (PE) of CLPP. The evaluation utilizes a set of matched comparison communities together with baseline and midline data to investigate whether and how CLPP efforts function to: effectively strengthen the land tenure security of rural communities; improve perceptions of governance and increase

accountability of local leaders; help communities to document their land and to codify rules to protect their community land and natural resource claims; and impact the land protection and governance participation of women, youth and minority group members. Baseline data collection took place between February and July 2014 prior to that start of program activities and consisted of household and leader surveys, focus group discussions, and key informant interviews. Midline data collection occurred in March 2017.

BY THE NUMBERS

The CLPP evaluation measures outcomes at the community and household levels using three primary sources of baseline and midline data from 57 communities:

- 818 Household surveys;
- 162 Community leader surveys; and,
- 156 Focus group discussions.

KEY BASELINE FINDINGS

Baseline results suggest that respondents do not significantly fear encroachment or expropriation on their lands, even if they are not actively using these lands. However, uncertainty surrounding community boundaries is a persistent source of conflict with neighboring villages. Community authorities with historical roles in community-level land management, including elders and the traditional custodian or landlord, are the most important authorities for land and natural resources in the community. While these existing community governance structures are not very inclusive or democratic, community members nevertheless report relatively high levels of support for these structures.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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