



Best Practices for Land Tenure and Natural Resource Governance in East and Central Africa— Training Course 2-7 December 2007

Course Overview

USAID/EGAT in collaboration with Rwanda's Ministry of Lands, Environment, Forestry, Water and Mines (MINITERE) organized a one-week course, Best Practices for Land Tenure and Natural Resource Governance in East and Central Africa. It was held in Kigali, Rwanda on December 2-7, 2007. The course targeted government policymakers and USAID mission staff in the region who work on land and natural resource issues. Forty-two participants from seven countries attended, including Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda. The course was offered under the Property Rights and Natural Resource Management Task Order contracted under the ARD/RAISE IQC.

Three overarching objectives guided the course:

1. Share experiences, deepen discussion and build understanding of land and natural resource property rights issues affecting countries in the East and Central Africa region.
2. Exchange experiences and broaden knowledge of effective property rights policies and approaches to address critical issues in the region.
3. Learn and apply tools designed to help assess these issues and formulate targeted property rights interventions.

Course modules addressed best practice approaches to addressing property rights issues in four areas: natural resource governance and biodiversity protection, gender, land administration and markets, and resource-based conflict. Course trainers were derived principally from the East Africa region to present models and approaches drawn from the region and broader Africa and to serve as resource persons throughout the program. Field tours organized by MINITERE illustrated approaches undertaken by the Government of Rwanda to regularize rural land holdings as well as informal urban settlements. The course also acquainted participants with tools for assessing property rights issues and planning appropriate interventions to address those issues. Country groups met to assess their issues in the context of that day's module theme with facilitation by resource persons. The final day of the course was devoted to developing and presenting country action plans to serve as learning exercises for planning measures to address the land tenure and property rights issues they had identified as critical. It is hoped that these plans might serve as a basis for spearheading new property rights initiatives upon return of the participants to their countries.

The contents below include the course announcement, agenda, participant list, resource person bios, the presentations associated with each module, the descriptions of the field tours, country action plans drafted by participants, the course evaluation results, and a photo gallery.

- **Announcement** ([PDF, 33K](#))
- **Agenda** ([PDF, 58K](#))
- **Participant List** ([PDF, 37K](#))
- **Resource Person Bios** ([PDF, 59K](#))
- **Course Registration and Welcome**
 - Eugene Rurangwa, Registrar, MINITERE
 - George Lewis, Mission Director, USAID/Rwanda
 - Peter Hetz, ARD
 - Michael Roth, ARD: Course Overview and Objectives ([PDF, 660K](#))
- **Course Introduction and Key Concepts**
 - Michael Roth
 - David Bledsoe ([PDF, 235K](#))
- **[Module 1: Natural Resource Rights and Biodiversity Protection](#)**



- [Module 2: Gender Issues in Land and Natural Resource Rights](#)
- [Module 3: Land Administration and Markets](#)
- [Field Tour: Property Rights Models in Rwanda](#)
- Module 4: Resource Based Conflict and Stabilization and the Role of CSOs
- Country Group Proposals: LTPR Assessments and Action Planning
- [Course Evaluation Results \(PDF, 1.6M\)](#)

The training course was followed by a one day module for USAID staff only on Saturday, December 8. The purpose was to acquaint mission staff in the eastern Africa region with concepts, approaches, and tools for the programming of land tenure and property rights in USAID programs.

Module 1: Natural Resource Rights and Biodiversity Protection

Chair: Peter Hetz, ARD

Objectives: Help decision-makers understand and address the following: 1) Why are property rights over natural resources important? 2) What mechanisms can be used to formalize rights to natural resources? 3) What policy and administrative approaches have been effective for equitably devolving resource rights to local levels? 4) What options can governments pursue when governance systems are no longer capable of helping people manage and enforce property rights to land and natural resources? 5) Offer participants tools for appraising an LTPR situation and identifying and sequencing measures to address critical issues.

Strengthening Property Rights to Improve Natural Resource Governance

(Margaret Rugadya, Associates Foundation Ltd, Kampala)

Presentation ([PDF, 32K](#))

Devolving Resource Rights and Governance to Local Governments and Communities

(Frank Muhereza, Center for Basic Research, Kampala)

Presentation ([PDF, 30K](#))

Innovative Approaches - Using Property Rights for Wildlife Management

(Patricia Kameri-Mbote, Associate Professor of Law, University of Nairobi)

Presentation ([PDF, 41K](#))

Module 2: Gender Issues in Land and Natural Resource Rights

Chair: David Bledsoe, RDI

Objectives: Help decision-makers understand and address the following: 1) Why are women's property rights over land and natural resources important, and how do they differ from property rights for other vulnerable populations?, 2) How does the HIV/AIDS epidemic affect women's rights to land?, 3) What policy, administrative, judicial and institutional options exist for strengthening women's rights to land and resources, while still respecting local institutions and customs?

Introduction to Module and Objectives

(David Bledsoe, RDI)

Presentation ([PDF, 86K](#))

Gender Role Play

(Justine Mirembe, RDI)

Presentation ([PDF, 69K](#))

Best Practices for Strengthening Women's Land Rights

(Rose Mwebaza, Faculty of Law, Makerere University)

Presentation ([PDF, 397K](#))

Module 3: Land Administration and Markets

Chair: Michael Roth, ARD

Objectives: Help decision-makers understand and address: 1) What are the links between property rights, access to capital, investment and economic growth? 2) What are the pros and cons of registering property rights to individuals, households, groups and communities, and when is it likely to be appropriate? 3) How does one stimulate land rental and sales markets enabling both economic growth and equity? 4) What alternative property rights and land use models can facilitate higher economic value on community lands?

Introduction to Module and Objectives

(Mike Roth, ARD)

Presentation ([PDF, 134K](#))

Land rights and Economic Growth: Understanding the Conditions for Registration and Titling

(Eddie Nsamba-Gayiiya, Land Economist, Kenya)

Presentation ([PDF, 104K](#))

Stimulating Land Rental Markets: Lessons from Kwa-Zulu Natal, South Africa

(David Thomson, Technical Advisor, National Department of Land Affairs, South Africa)

Presentation ([PDF, 537K](#))

Alternative Tenure Models for Community Lands

(**Michael Roth**, ARD)
Presentation ([PDF, 222K](#))

Field Tour: Property Rights Models in Rwanda
Coordinator: MINITERE/OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR OF LAND TITLES

Objectives: To view first hand models designed to address key LTPR challenges and learn directly from the stakeholders involved about their experiences with these models. Participants will be provided with background information on each of the tours along with key questions for consideration that are relevant to their specific tour.

Northern Province
Brief ([PDF, 546K](#))

Urban Settlements
Brief ([PDF, 288K](#))

Module 4: Resource Based Conflict and Stabilization and the Role of CSOs
Chair: Peter Hetz, ARD

Objectives: Help decision-makers understand and address: 1) What do we mean by resource-based conflict, and how do resources either prompt or become the focus of conflict? 2) What options exist for mitigating disputes over resources and for preventing escalation to violent conflict? 3) How can IDPs and refugees be resettled in a post-conflict environment, in a way that diminishes the possibility for conflict to reerupt?, 4) What policies, actions and processes are important for engaging civil society in land policy formulation in partnership with governments?

Introduction to Day and Objectives
(**Chris Huggins**, Independent Consultant)
Presentation ([PDF, 158K](#))

Best Practices: Forming Effective Civil Society Partnerships
(**Odenda Lumumba**, Rose Mwebaza and Annie Kairaba)
Presentation ([PDF, 31K](#))

Best Practices for LTPR Dispute Resolution Questions and Discussion
(**H. Ouedraogo**, Legal consultant, Burkina Faso)
Presentation ([PDF, 80K](#))

Understanding Resource-based Conflicts
(**Chris Huggins**, Independent Consultant)
Presentation ([PDF, 447K](#))



Resettlement and Restitution of HLP Rights: Approaches and Best Practices

(Margaret Rugadya, Associates Foundation Ltd, Kampala)

Presentation ([PDF, 311K](#))

Country Group Proposals: LTPR Assessments and Action Planning

Chair: Peter Hetz, ARD

Objectives: Each Country Team will have the opportunity to review and consolidate the results of earlier country team workshop sessions. Individual country action plans will: 1) Review the situation assessments that have been created during the week and provide greater clarity and/or detail to LTPR issues in their country; 2) Review the key sets of actions identified in each country team workshop output and prioritize these. 3) Present a country team action plan that can be used to attract donor and government support over the next 1-3 years.

- **Ethiopia Action Plan ([PDF, 22K](#))**
- **Kenya Action Plan ([PDF, 18K](#))**
- **Rwanda Action Plan ([PDF, 18K](#))**
- **Sudan Action Plan ([PDF, 22K](#))**
- **Tanzania Action Plan ([PDF, 68K](#))**
- **Uganda Action Plan ([PDF, 19K](#))**