

FINDINGS FROM THE LIBERIA MAST PILOT

Changes in Land Security and Availability

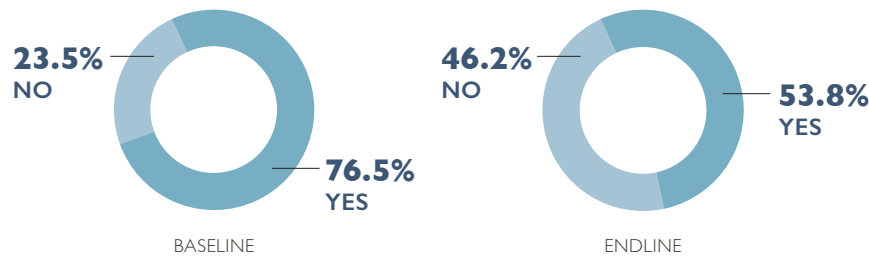
PILOT IN LIBERIA'S BLEI COMMUNITY FOREST

Local communities around the Blei Community Forest in Liberia applied USAID's MAST approach to document land and forest resources. Using MAST to map community land boundaries allowed Blei citizens to visualize their land and resource holdings for the first time. Quantifying these resources helped to demonstrate to communities that their customary land-based resources are finite and that they possess fewer resources than assumed.



MAPPING LANDS HELPED COMMUNITIES UNDERSTAND THE LIMITS OF THEIR LAND RESOURCES

Do you have adequate land and resources in your community?
(baseline n=102; endline n=182)

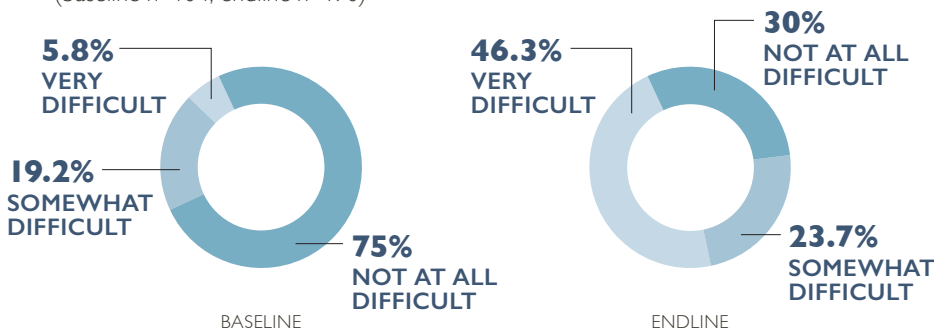


Citizens in Blei used MAST to capture information about of their land boundaries and the amount of land resources. They gained an understanding of their boundaries relative to their neighbors and the amount of land resources they have historically controlled under customary systems.

The increased understanding changed perceptions of the availability of these resources, and prompted reflection on the ease of accessing resources for personal or family use.

THE PILOT INCREASED AWARENESS ABOUT AVAILABILITY OF COMMUNITY LAND RESOURCES

Is it difficult for households to gain access to customary land in your community?
(baseline n=104; endline n=190)



USAID's Mobile Applications to Secure Land Tenure is a collaborative, participatory approach that builds sustainable local capacity to efficiently map resource rights and secure land tenure. MAST is managed by USAID's Land and Urban Office.

