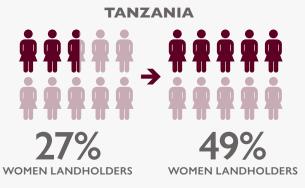
MAST IMPROVES WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

MAST empowers women to understand and exercise their land rights. It provides training to help them understand their rights and formal titling, and engages both women and men as community surveyors and land committee leaders.

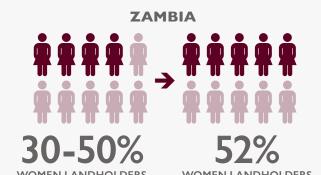
In many parts of the world, formal and informal laws and customs hinder women's access to land. and thus their full potential as agents of economic and social change. USAID's Mobile Application to Secure Tenure (MAST) approach has been effective in strengthening women's land tenure and promoting the empowerment of women in communities where it has been implemented.



Prior to MAST interventions, data from Tanzania indicated that only 27% of landowners were women. MAST has achieved 49% in its target villages.

"I have been living in fear all those years because I did not have any document that supported my land rights claim. I have now won the battle."

Yolanda Ngunda,
 51-year-old female farmer,
 Tanzania



In Zambia, government policies call for 30-50% of state land to be reserved for women. MAST has achieved 52% of customary land allocated to women in targeted villages.

"I can plant anything
I want to put on my land.
I am free because now
I am confident that it is
really mine."

 Zambian farmer and MAST beneficiary

MAST empowers women by providing a method to secure their land tenure. Women with documented land title are more resilient to the social and economic upheaval caused by divorce, widowhood, or abandonment. MAST helps women receive legal recognition for their land rights, leading to greater economic stability and decision-making power among women.



For more information on MAST, visit www.land-links.org/mast.