



PAMIBIA UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Faculty of Engineering and Spatial
Sciences

Department: Land and Property
Sciences

Concept Note: Women's Land Rights

Celebrating the Role of Women in the Land Sector in Southern Africa,
Reflecting on Experiences, Progress, and the Way Forward

Date: Thursday, 24 March 2022

Time: 10:00 - 13:00

Venue: MS Teams



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1. Background

Land is a basic asset which supports livelihoods of people. Dependence on the asset is more among people in the developing world where the majority of the poor reside. The asset is more important to women, youth and older persons who are included in the most vulnerable populations. Vulnerable groups, have tenuous land rights and limited control over labour, capital, and decision-making. Majority of women across Southern Africa today remain marginalised and oppressed in society as opposed to their male counterparts who are systematically advantaged and continue to hold more privileges over land. This undermines efforts to improve gender equity and equality in society. In recognition of this, the global communities, regional and national governments have put in place measures to address asymmetry in the access, control, and capacity to benefit from land. These measures include guidelines, legislation, administrative systems, and capacity building initiatives. However, in spite of the plethora of initiatives, gender equality in access to, control and participation in decision-making over land and natural resources persists. Considering this, countries would need to invest more energy in effective review and cohesive implementation of gender insensitive laws and policies that will guarantee access to, control and decision making. The issue around women's land right creates a space to simultaneously work on the processes and systems that perpetuate injustice and oppression.

The short webinar is organised to celebrate and reflect on the role of women in the land sector, from academia, government, civil society and grassroot communities.

2. Theme, Purpose and the Objectives of the Conference

2.1 The Role of Women in the Land Sector Webinar Conference

The theme of the conference shall be (tentatively), Women's Voices in Support of Land Rights for All. This theme was selected to reflect the issues around the role of women in the land sector following the celebration of International Women's Day.

2.2 The Purpose of the Conference

Considering the above theme, the three-hour webinar will be organized to engage local and global stakeholders on the progress made by women within the land sector and identify gaps to be addressed in support of women's participation in advancing secure land rights for all. The webinar will bring together experienced individuals who will share reflections on their work in academia, civil society and government on the status of gender equality in land governance within Southern Africa.

2.3 The Objectives of the Conference

To fully achieve the purpose of the conference, the objectives are as follows:

- Share progress and achievements of women within the land sector
- Discuss how gender and land has changed over the years in Southern Africa
- Identify the challenges women face in accessing platforms and space to advance land rights
- Reflect on the initiatives under way in terms of women's empowerment through secure land rights
- Explore promising interventions and ways women's land rights could be strengthened to achieve gender equality in land governance

2.4. Dates (and times) for the Women's Conference

Date: Thursday, 24 March 2022

Time: 10:00 - 13:00 [Central African Time]

Venue: Ms Teams

3. Who Will Attend?

Attendance of the Women in Land webinar will be open to all interested participants from all over the world. In addition, all partners of Network of Excellence on Land Governance in Africa (NELGA) and NUST would be encouraged to participate. All the members of NELGA will be invited. Specific partners of NUST, through its Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) partnership, comprised of 83 international institutions recognized for their productive engagement in the building and promoting knowledge that support the improvement of land challenges in different parts of the world and Social Climate Change Impacts and Sustainability Innovation in Southern Africa and Northern South America (“NISANSA”) partners.

4. About the Host and Supporting Institutions

4.1 Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST)

NUST is a public institution based in Windhoek, Namibia. Established in 1996 and formerly known as the Polytechnic of Namibia. NUST has a long history dating back to 1980, when it started classes in teacher training and secretarial courses. Today, NUST is ranked as the best higher education institution in Namibia. It is recognized by the African Union (through its Network of Excellence on Land Governance initiative) as a Centre of Excellence on Land Governance in Africa. For more information, visit www.nust.na. At NUST, the Department of Land and Property Sciences (DLPS) delivers programmes on Land governance, with a focus on Land and Property studies and Land Administration. DLPS core values are Life-long Learning, Accountability, Innovation and Dedication.

4.2 Network of Excellence on Land Governance in Africa (NELGA)

NELGA is a partnership of leading African universities and research institutions with proven leadership in education, training, and research on land governance. NELGA was established by the African Land Policy Centre in cooperation with the German Development Corporation (GIZ), the World Bank and other global partners. NELGA has more than 50 partner institutions across Africa. The objectives of NELGA includes, among others, the enhancement of training opportunities and curricula on land governance in Africa; promotion of demand-driven research on land policy issues; creation of data and land information to improve monitoring and evaluation on land policy reforms in Africa. NUST is a NELGA Centre in Southern Africa. The NELGA will support this conference by engaging scholars to facilitate the sessions of the conference as required by the Hanns Seidel Foundation Namibia (HSF) and NUST. For details about NELGA, please visit <https://nelga.org/>



5. Programme and Activities

Attendance on the first day of conference is open to the public. The activities in the programme include presentations and discussions.

Time	Activity	Facilitator/Speaker
10:00	E-Reception	NUST
10:15	Welcoming and Introductions	NUST
10:20	Opening Remarks	Prof Olusola Olufeni <i>Nigeria</i>
Discussion: Lessons from and Experiences from Women in the Land Sector: Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Eswathini, Zambia, Zimbabwe		
10:30		Ms Juliana Useyu <i>University of Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe</i>
10:40		Ms Tsitsi N Muparari <i>Midlands State University, Zimbabwe</i>
10:50		Ms Sheila Mugura <i>Zimbabwe Homeless People's Federation, Zimbabwe</i>
11:00		Ms Melania Tegerereni lipinge <i>Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform, Namibia</i>
11:10		Ms Mataeli Makhele Sekhants'o, <i>Land Administration Authority, Lesotho</i>
11:20		Dr Mandhu Fatima <i>University of Zambia, Zambia</i>
11:30	Discussion: Opportunities for Women in the Land Sector	Ms Menare Royal Mabakeng <i>NUST</i>
12:00	Presentation on Gender within the Land Sector	Dr Gaynor Paradza <i>Public Affairs Research Institute, South Africa</i>
12:30	Question and Answer Session	NUST
	Closing Remarks	NUST

6. E-Logistical Information

Participants will be registered or signed up in Zoom. The NUST project team will assist participants by providing all necessary login details to facilitate access to workshop virtual forum and any necessary information or assistance for participation in the workshop. As this is a virtual and paperless event, participants would rely on their own laptops, tablets and other internet-dependent electronic devices for this event. Reliable internet connection is mandatory for participation.

7. Overall Enquiries

7.1 Project Lead

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7.2 E-Logistical Enquiries

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