Strengthening advisory capacities for land governance in Africa

BACKGROUND

Weak land governance and insecure land rights are still major development challenges for Africa. In 2006, the African Union (AU) established the Land Policy Initiative (LPI), now AFRICAN LAND POLICY CENTRE (ALPC), thereby placing emphasis on the urgency of improving land policies in a regional context. The ALPC supports the AU AGENDA ON LAND and global initiatives for the responsible governance of land tenure rights. Although a growing number of countries show political will to realize these initiatives, their implementation at country level remains at an early stage. Many countries lack the HUMAN AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES required to implement sustainable land policies.

One of the main reasons for the lack of technical capacity is the insufficient QUALITY OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES at African universities and other institutions of higher learning. In addition most countries lack capacity for applied research, monitoring and evaluation, data to support effective implementation of land policy.

The German Government, ALPC and the World Bank have jointly agreed to strengthen human and institutional capacities for the implementation of a sustainable and development-oriented land policy under the programme “Strengthening Advisory Capacities for Land Governance in Africa (SLGA)”.

AT A GLANCE

The project supports sustainable and development-oriented land policies in over 30 African countries. Impact and target groups are African Universities and research institutions, Governments and AU institutions.

With over 50 academic institutions across Africa, NELGA provides capacity development and advisory services for continental and national institutions.

Budget: EUR 22.5 Million

Term: December 2014 – November 2021

DAAD supports the project through a comprehensive scholarship programme available for young academics and professionals from all AU-member states.
HOW WE WORK

SLGA provides support in the following areas:

1. Establish training and education capacities in the field of land management and land policy in Africa.
2. Institutional and technical strengthening of the ALPC through establishment of an African Network of Excellence on Land Governance (NELGA).
4. Strengthen capacity of AU-mandated institutions to support national and regional land policy development.

The programme works in cooperation with African and international acknowledged universities and research institutes, ALPC, the World Bank, the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the New Economic Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD).

PRACTICAL EXAMPLE: NELGA

One central activity of SLGA is to establish a NETWORK OF EXCELLENCE ON LAND GOVERNANCE IN AFRICA (NELGA) under the leadership of the ALPC. NELGA is a partnership of leading African UNIVERSITIES and RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS with proven leadership in ACADEMIC EDUCATION, TRAINING AND RESEARCH on land governance. Currently NELGA has more than 50 partner institutions in over 30 African countries.

NELGA aims to enhance training opportunities and curricula on land governance in Africa, promote demand driven research, connect scholars and researchers across Africa, and to create data and information for monitoring and evaluation on land policy reforms.

For better coordination of NELGA in the different regions, a lead university has been selected for each AU region to implement NELGA activities jointly with other NELGA institutions.

NELGA LEAD PARTNERS

NORTHERN AFRICA
Institut Agronomique et Vétérinaire Hassan II
Department Topographie
Rabat / Morocco

WESTERN AFRICA
Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST)
Department of Geomatic Engineering
Department of Land Economy
Department of Planning
Kumasi / Ghana

CENTRAL AFRICA
University of Yaoundé
Department of Geography
Yaoundé / Cameroon

SOUTHERN AFRICA
Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST)
Faculty of Natural Resources and Spatial Sciences
Department of Land and Property Sciences
Windhoek / Namibia

EASTERN AFRICA
Ardhi University
Department of Land Management and Valuation
Dar es Salaam / Tanzania