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Land Portal Newsletter
April 2020

Message from the Land Portal Team Leader



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

First and foremost, we hope that this message finds each of you staying safe.

Though the Covid-19 outbreak has forced us all to take some time apart, our team has been hard at work of late, continuing to support our users who are turning to the Land Portal to stay connected via online means in what are unprecedented times. We are here with and for each and every one of you, to put our numerous services to work in order to help fill in the gap that has inevitably been created in all of our work-streams due to the current global health crisis. We are also here to continue in our goal of connecting people around the world.

As a team and organization whose main mission over the past ten years has been to serve fellow members of the land community through our track record of digital innovation, the range of tools and resources which we already have in our arsenal can be of benefit to organizations big and

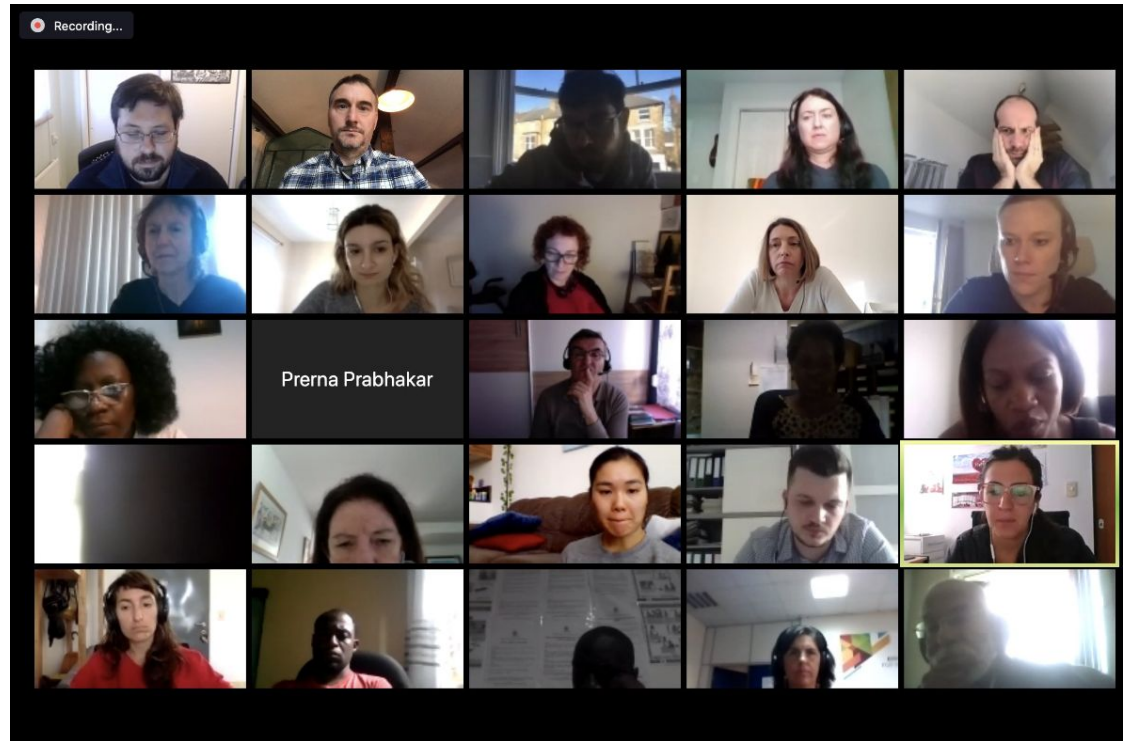
small, especially in this new era of social distancing. We invite you to make use of them all; from our well-established [webinars](#) and [online discussions](#), to our newly launched [data stories](#) section and [GeoPortal](#). More information here below for your perusal and use!

Wishing you much strength for now.

Warm regards,

Laura Meggiolaro
Land Portal Team Leader

Discover our virtual tools



Join in on the conversation via our webinars and online discussions

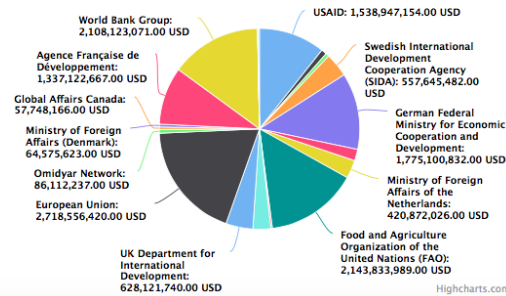
As the coronavirus rages across the world, major land events have been canceled and many more are uncertain in the coming months. The Land Portal has years of experience organizing highly effective online experiences that attract targeted land governance stakeholders. We organize dynamic webinars that assure highly professional results tailored to the needs of your different stakeholder groups. We also offer interactive online dialogues that harness local knowledge and generate global exposure.

Browse the largest global database of land and property rights projects to track project funding, learn from others, find synergies or share valuable outcomes from your own projects.

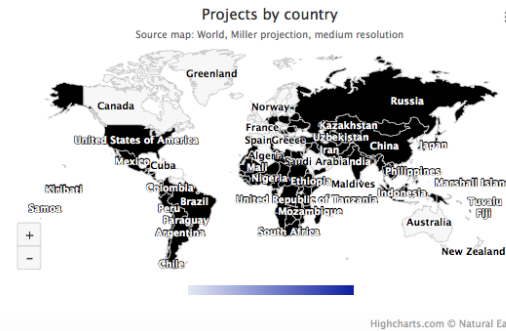
137 active projects
currently being implemented globally.

1006 total projects
in the largest land projects global database.

Where does the money come from?



Where are land projects happening?



Learn more about land related projects worldwide

Our newly launched database aims to help anybody from practitioners, researchers and donors alike to easily search for types of projects, to track funding, to see who is funding what and to add in their own projects to the database. Most importantly, this tool can be critical in seeking out fruitful collaboration. Our aim for this new section of the Land Portal is not to be regarded as a comprehensive content type that will profile all projects that exist about land rights worldwide, a seemingly impossible task, but to be an important democratic, virtual space where information can be both shared and received.

[Click here to learn more.](#)



Browse information about land and investments

Given the importance of delivering up-to-date data, information and tools relevant to land investments to business investors, affected communities and development practitioners, the Land Portal Foundation has recently released a new portfolio on land and investments. This portfolio provides improved access to data and information on land investments and brings together resources that can be used for better informed decision-making processes on new and ongoing land investments to ensure they are responsible, by recognizing and protecting people's legitimate land rights. In order to help private sector stakeholders identify and access the

practical tools and guides that are most relevant to their work, we have also recently launched a [Responsible Land-Based Investment Navigator](#).

[Click here to learn more.](#)

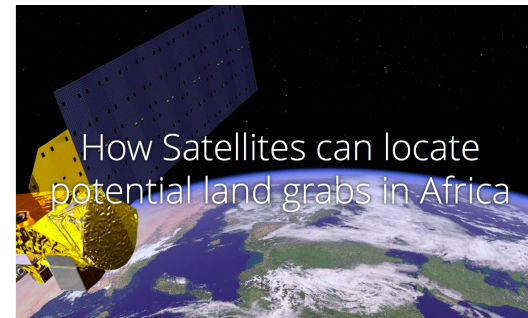


Visit our newly launched interactive GeoPortal

This new platform provides an opportunity for all those interested in land data, not just data scientists, to interact with data in its spatial form. With the GeoPortal, we aim to transcend national borders, moving beyond country boundaries and siloed and top-down approaches to data. We want to democratize all information, including spatial information! More specifically, the GeoPortal allows users to display and overlay both statistical and geospatial data on the map and edit their own data

visualizations. Our goal is to make this tool as simple to use as possible for a non-specialized audience and we look forward to receiving your feedback.

[Click here to learn more.](#)



Read our range of data stories

As data enthusiasts, we believe in the power that data holds and are strong proponents for democratizing information, making it easy to share and reuse. Despite this, data scientists and those working with data in general, often struggle to communicate how and why data are essential and potentially life changing. Data stories therefore serve as an agile and malleable form of communication that are intended for non-specialized

audiences. With these stories, we hope to turn data into information and knowledge!

[Click here to learn more.](#)

Learn more about our data stories contest



Winners of the Land Portal's Second Data Story Contest Have Been Chosen

The data stories which we now publish on a monthly basis are intended for non-specialized audiences and our goal in sharing these stories is to

democratize land information. With this in mind, we recently launched our second data stories contest, in order to allow enthusiasts from students to researchers alike, to share their stories with us. Three high-quality and engaging stories have been chosen and the winners will be announced shortly. Thanks to all those who participated!

In the meantime, we invite you to read the winners from last year's story contest:

[First Prize Winner 2019](#)

[Second Prize Winner 2019](#)

[Third Prize Winner 2019](#)

Meet our local knowledge engagement team

We are glad to announce our network of local knowledge engagement contributors. Our newest team members are based around the globe and are working hard to populate Land Portal pages with local knowledge and to unveil local information ecosystems. They are also tasked with engaging with local data stakeholders. To learn more about our growing team, please feel free to read more [about us](#).

Romy Sato
Freiburg, Germany
Local Knowledge Engagement



Team Coordinator

Romy is originally from the Brazilian Amazon and has over 15 years of experience as a communications officer, researcher and policy advisor in various topics within rural development. For more than 5 years she has coordinated activities of the Global Donor Working Group on Land and managed the Land Governance Programme Map.



Rick de Satge

Cape Town, South Africa

Southern Africa Node

Coordinator

Rick is the former Director of Research and Collaborative Learning with Phuhlisani NPC, a leading South African land NGO, to which he remains affiliated as a Senior Research Associate. He currently curates knowledgebase.land, providing

news and research links on land issues.



Daniel Hayward

Bangkok, Thailand

Asia Node Coordinator

Daniel works as an international development researcher, focused on land relations, agricultural value chains, gender, and migration. As well as working for Land Portal, Daniel is the project coordinator of the Mekong Land Research Forum at Chiang Mai University.



Anne Hennings

Germany, South Africa, Sierra Leone

Support to Africa and Asia nodes

Anne has worked on land and resource related issues for over 10 years and holds a PhD in Peace and Conflict Studies. In addition to working for the Land Portal, Anne is a postdoc research fellow at the Peace Academy Rhineland-

Palatinate and speaker of the working group “Nature, Resources, Conflicts”.



Aaron Akinocho

Benin

Local Content Associate

Aaron is a journalist. He has worked on agriculture and public management issues in Africa and is passionate about development topics. He has also launched comprendre.media to explain the great challenges of this century to a wider public.



Amanda Martinez

Recife, Brazil

Local Content Associate

Amanda is a PhD Candidate in Urban Development at the Federal University of Pernambuco, Brazil. Her areas of research are based on urban socio-spatial segregation, gender and urban planning, land rights and decolonial studies

related to space production in Latin America.



Sandra Apaza Lanyi

Madrid, Spain

Local Content Support

Sandra is a communications specialist and is responsible for communications and knowledge management for International Land Coalition Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) and has worked with various public institutions, CSOs and research centers.

Click here to read what people are saying about us!



“The Land Portal is one of the go-to websites we use when it comes to land governance. When we have new colleagues, it’s one of the main sources we give them to inform themselves about the topic, as it provides an incredible overview of everything that is happening in the land governance sector – who’s involved, what initiatives there are, especially related to SDG monitoring, so it really is a great resource. One of the most significant roles of the Land Portal is its work on open data and building the data ecosystem. Three years ago, the Land Portal organized a workshop on building the land information ecosystem. They have one of the frontrunners on this topic, which has mushroomed internationally. This is a major added value to the land governance sector.”

Elke Matthaai
Land Governance Advisor
GIZ



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