
***Open and Inclusive Land
Governance Data
for Climate Action and Accountability***

EC Land Data Partnership
Land Matrix Initiative
Prindex
Land Portal
International Land Coalition

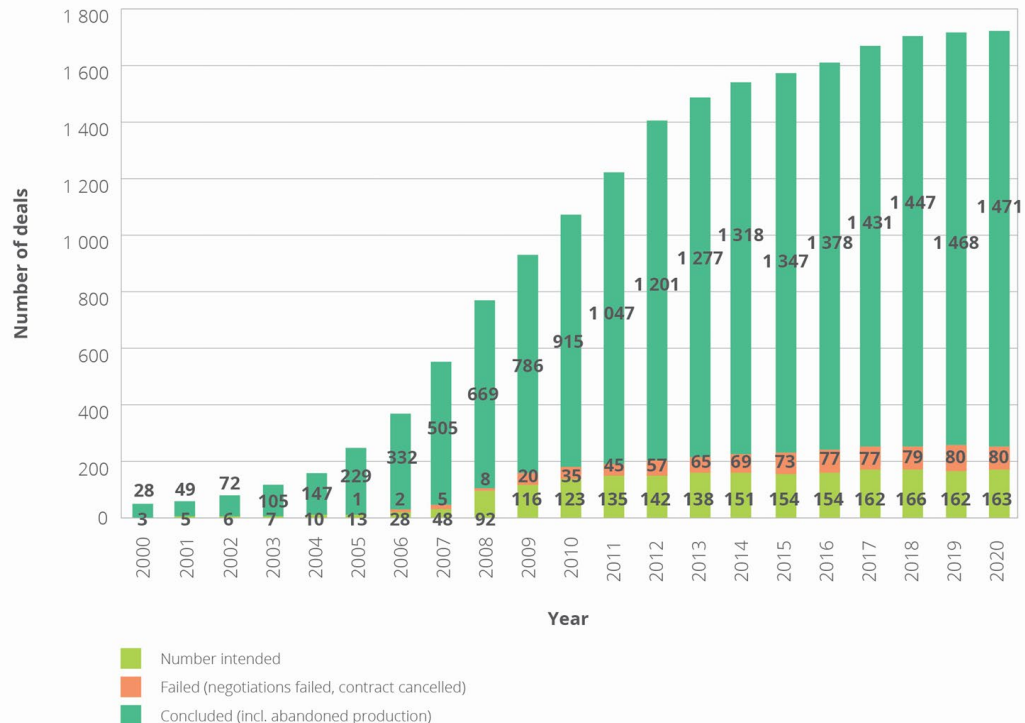
First round of questions

Introducing the data

Land Matrix Initiative

Pressure on land and the global agricultural land rush

Figure: Cumulative global number of deals over time



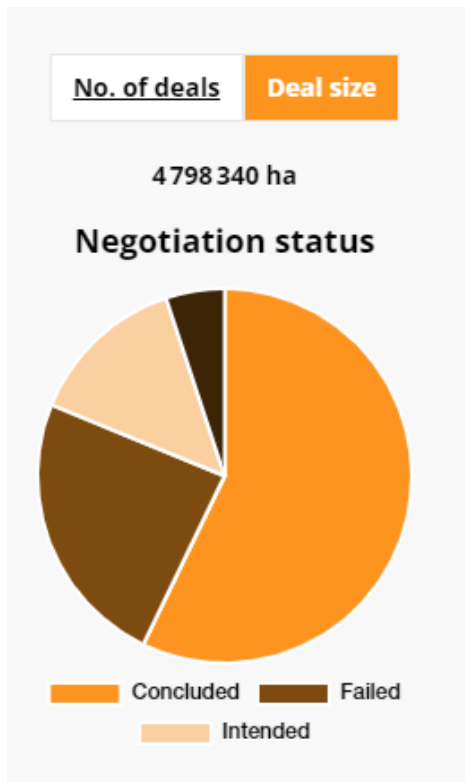
- Since 2000, the LMI has recorded agricultural deals with a total size of 33 million ha
- Slow-down since 2015
- BUT: New pressures arise ...

Notes: Calculations based on Land Matrix data. The number of concluded and failed deals are under-reported in this dynamic illustration (as compared to the static 'current' number of deals per negotiation status) because deals for which information on the specific year relating to the negotiation status is lacking are excluded. Conversely, the number of intended deals is slightly over-reported because the few deals which have been concluded in an unknown year are included here as 'intended'. For detailed information on how the dynamics are calculated, see Box 1.

Ever bigger carbon offsetting projects: The “global land rush” 2.0

Size of nature-based carbon offsets registered in the LMI

PRELIMINARY



Two examples:

Land deal in 2007: Katchung Forest (Uganda), Deal #3156

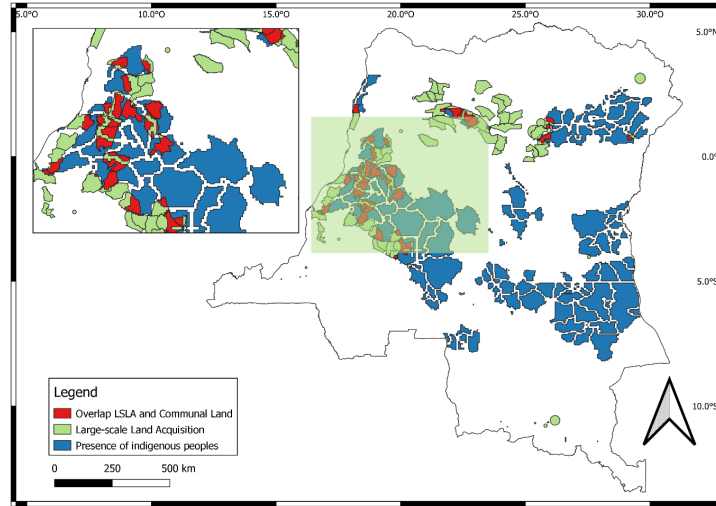
❓ Size under operation: 1,972 ha. Recognized as a Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) project, but severe land conflicts.

Land deal in 2022: BaCaSi project (DRC), Deal #9812

❓ Size under contract: 55,000 ha. To be certified under the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS), not yet implemented.

Specific risk: Green washing of logging deals?

Figure: Map of LSLAs and communal lands in DRC



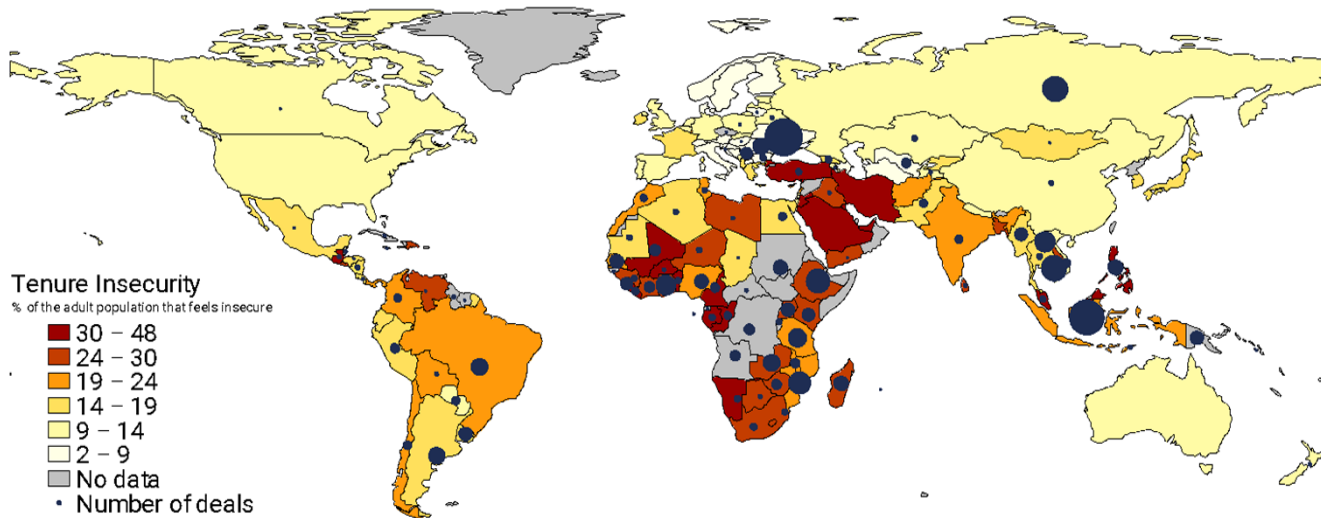
- Approximately 14.2 Mio ha of land in the DRC are targeted by land concessions
- 3.3 Mio ha of LSLAs are located (in red) in districts/territories with known presence of indigenous peoples
- Major portion of these land concessions are logging concessions

- ❓ Substantial potential to “repurpose” land deals for forest logging into carbon offsetting schemes, e.g.
- 300,000 ha of Somicongo for forest logging have been repurposed for carbon sequestration in 2018 (Deal #8906), evidence of poor consultation
 - 348,000 ha of Safbois/Jadora for logging have been repurposed for carbon sequestration in 2009 (Deal #3214)

BUT: Repurposing does not mean that land issue are resolved, and large parts of these areas may not be “high-quality” carbon credits (actually “avoided deforestation” and definition of baseline?)

Reason to worry: Land deals under weak land governance systems

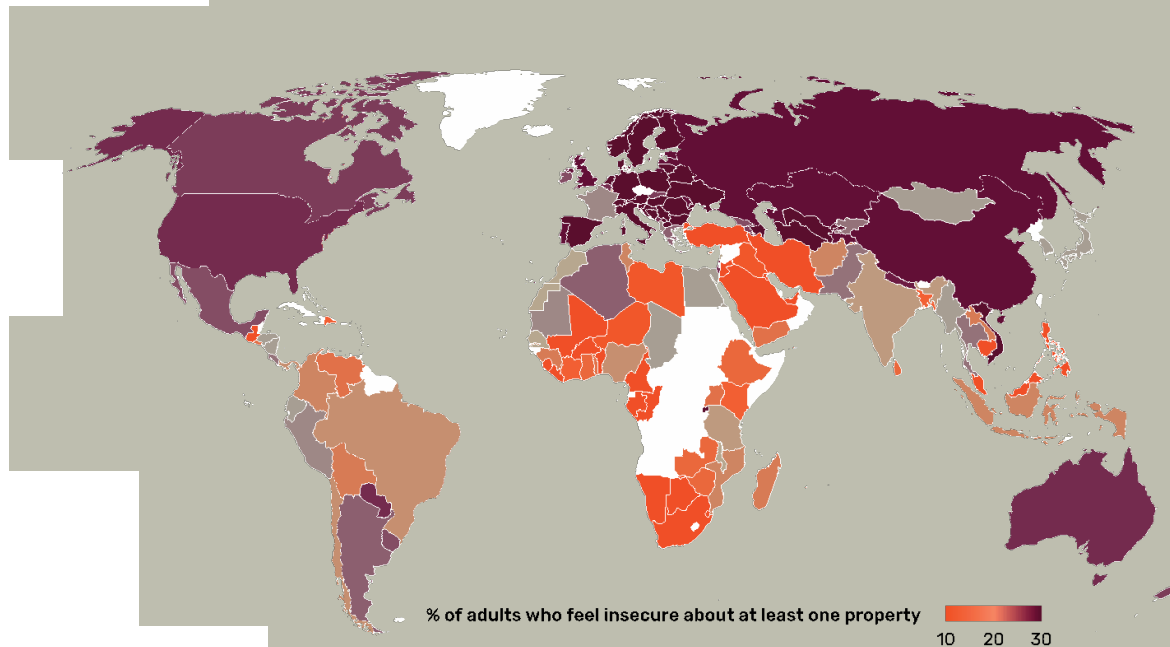
Figure: Prindex data on tenure insecurity and large-scale land deals



- Large-scale land deals occur regardless of the degree of land tenure security (Prindex), carbon offset projects do not seem to be an exception
- Our data show that land targeted by investors is frequently used by smallholders and pastoralists communities and IPs under weakly protected tenure

PRINDEX

Nearly
1 in 5 adults
feel insecure about
their land or property
rights



Perceived tenure insecurity

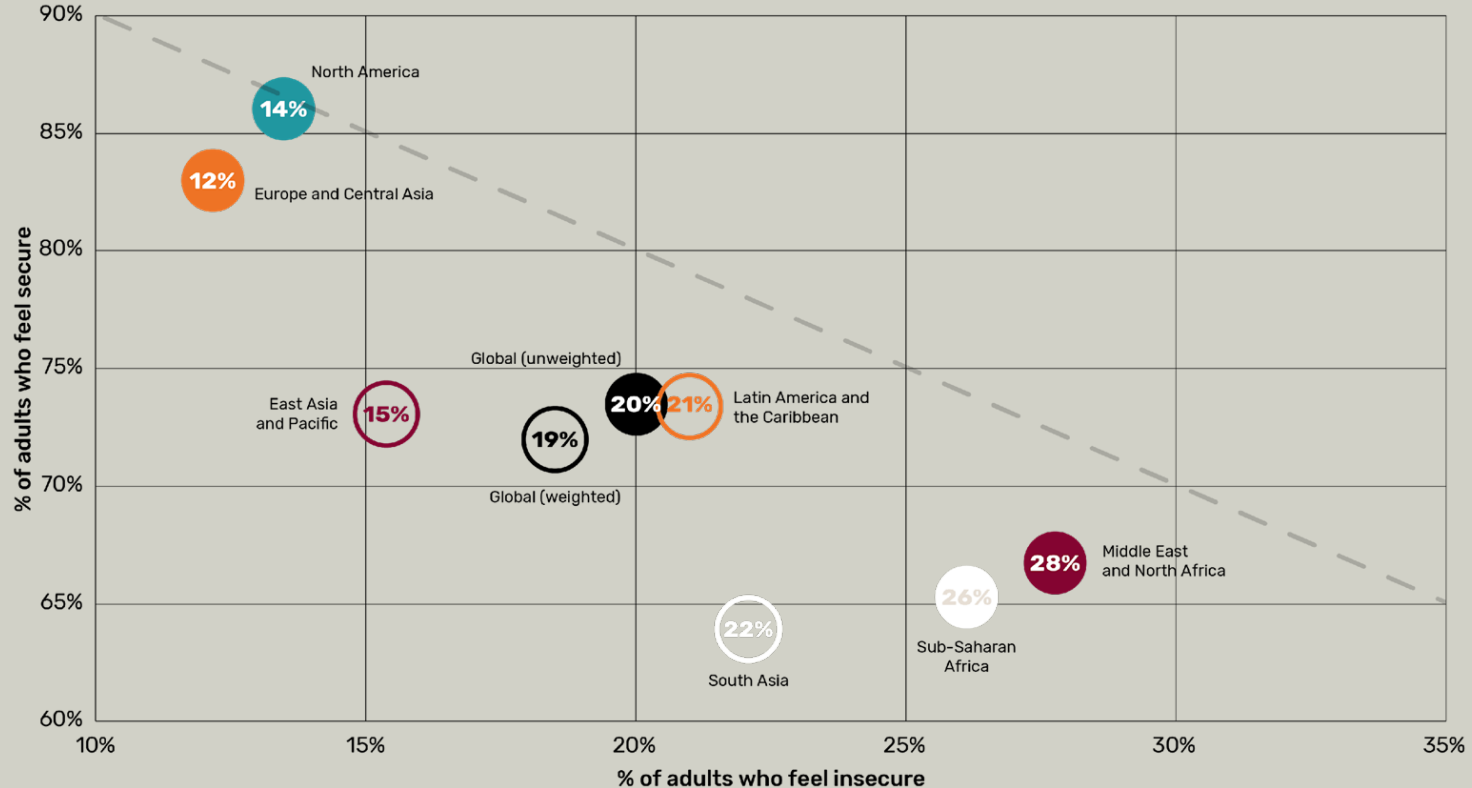
- A global dataset: [Prindex.net](https://prindex.net)

almost

1 billion

people

Where Which regions are most insecure



Land Portal

How complete and open is land data around the world?



WHAT

An indicator that assesses the openness of land data and information at the global and country levels

WHY

Land data in the public domain enables use, ensures transparency, and improves decision-making and service-provision

HOW

Methodology based on Land Portal's established State of Land Information (SOLI) research and reports

FOR WHOM

Land data custodians, policy-makers, researchers, land + development practitioners, open data advocates

International Land Coalition

STATE OF LAND DATA IN AFRICA

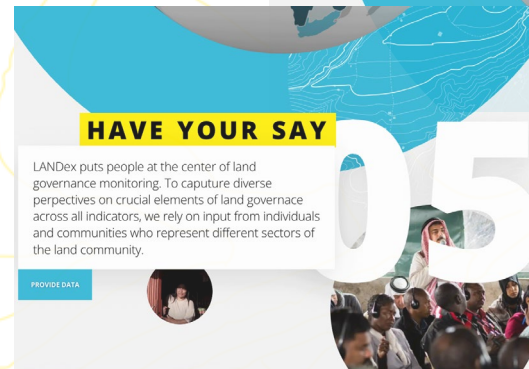
In Africa, while the context differs from one country to another, there are specific issues that cut across as far as land data is concerned:

- Limited/inadequate/outdated or total lack of official government data on land governance
- Data fragmentation/lack of harmonization.
- Lack of government confidence in citizen generated data.



Global Land Governance Index

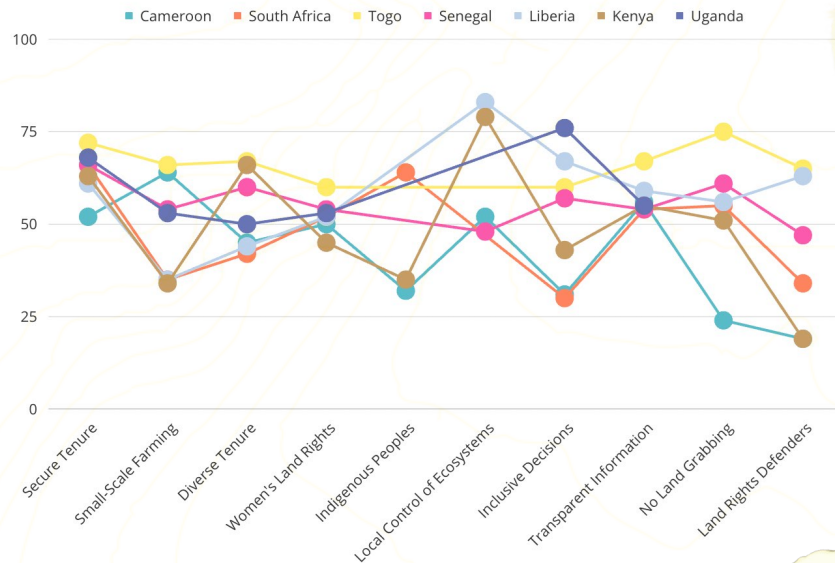
- A platform dedicated to people's data* on land
- Centering people, their organisations and communities in the land monitoring process
- Measuring what matters!
- Data-inclusive, relies on diverse methods and data sources
- Elevating the issues, voices and perspectives often absent in the numbers
- Centralising important datasets on land and making them accessible.



* People's data refers to all land-related information collected and used by individuals, communities and their organisations to promote people-centred land governance. It seeks to highlight and disaggregate how our members experience land governance, perspectives often missing in official numbers

4 Years of LANDex in Africa

- Identification of policy implementation gaps in the different national land governance systems and initiate conversations with policy makers around these issues e.g.
 - NLC Liberia - engaging with the government to develop a national level system to monitor the implementation of land laws.
- Building data partnerships
 - NLC Kenya and NLC Cameroon have established relationships with National Statistical Bodies to see how they can work together to collect data on land governance.



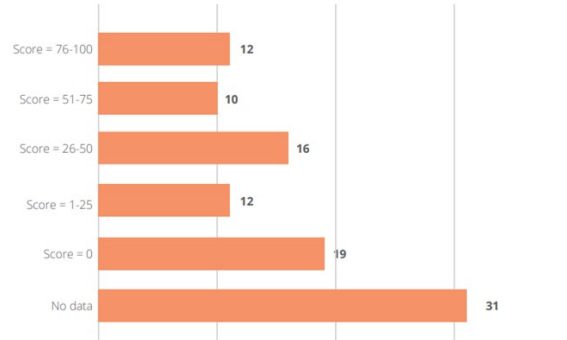
Second round of questions

Application of land data for climate action

Land Matrix Initiative

Large-scale land deals in Africa: Limited VGGT compliance

Figure: Almost 80% of the land deals show unsatisfactory compliance

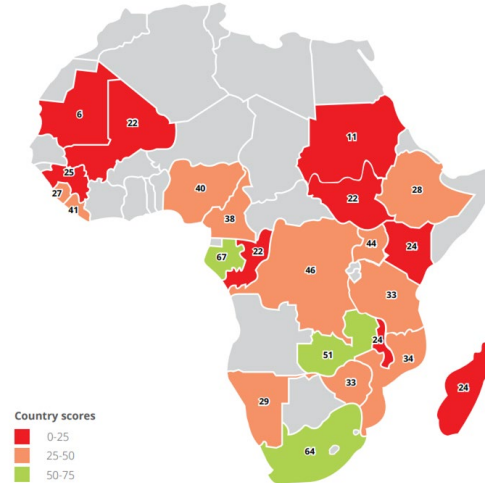


Main reasons for unsatisfactory compliance of deals include:

- Weak or non-existent consultative processes (VGGT chapter 9)
- Low regard for legitimate tenure rights (VGGT chapter 10)
- Lack of safeguards, unlawful expropriation (VGGT chapter 7)
- Minimal application of agreed-upon compensation measures (VGGT chapter 16)

Even after 10 years of monitoring, a recurring issue across all deals in Africa is the continuous lack of data and the dire state of transparency.

Figure: In only three countries do the majority of deals comply with VGGT

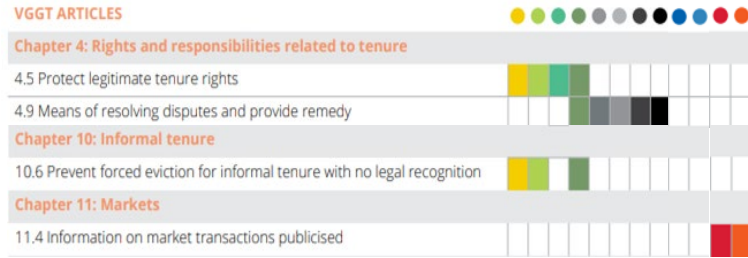


☒ In most countries large-scale land deals in the past two decades are not compliant with the VGGT. Will it be business as usual for nature-based carbon offsets and green energy projects?

Accountability application

The LMI designed an accountability web-application that evaluates the compliance with the VGGT based on land data:

Figure: Example of evaluation methodology for 3 VGGT chapters



LAND MATRIX VARIABLES USED TO MONITOR VGGT ARTICLES

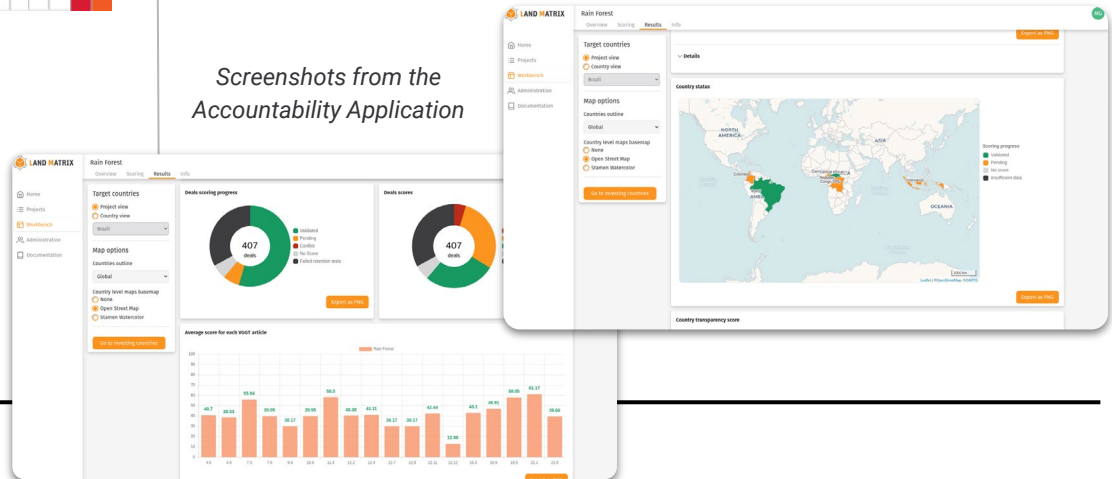
- Status of community land tenure
- Displacement
- Consultation of local community
- Community reaction
- Promised compensation
- Received compensation
- Presence of land conflicts
- Organisations and actions taken
- Materialised benefits
- Negative impacts for local community
- Gender related information
- Purchase price
- Leasing fees

The **Regional Focal Points** of the LMI rate the articles and chapters using three degrees of compliance violation:

- Severe compliance violations reported
- Partial compliance violations reported
- No compliance violation reported

☒ **Increase accountability for nature-based carbon offsets and green energy projects (further will be added in the database in targeted campaigns)**

Screenshots from the Accountability Application



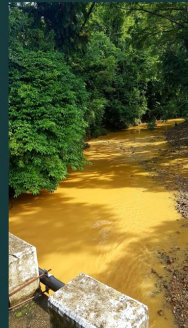
...and climate investments are already causing harm



ROAD NETWORK BETWEEN WTG 11 & 20



PLATFORM CONSTRUCTION (WTG20)



STATUS OF NAPAAN RIVER ON AUGUST 03, 2023



51 P 384112 1317074
accuracy: 2m



Altitude
11 m
8/3/23
9:49 AM

STATUS OF ARGAO
SHORES ON
AUGUST 03, 2023



51 P 384360 1317118
accuracy: 2m

Altitude
10 m
8/3/23
9:53 AM



51 P 384374 1317127
accuracy: 2m

Altitude
11 m
8/3/23
9:58 AM

PRINDEX

Mapping and Monitoring Tenure Security for Climate and Environment

Aim: inform policies and programmes to mitigate climate change, support sustainable land use, and protect and restore biodiversity through:

- Identifying tenure insecurity hotspots in carbon sinks and vulnerable ecosystems
- Developing methodologies to assess collective tenure security
- Unpicking relationship between tenure (in)security and environmental outcomes

Assessing Collective Tenure Security

Stage	Indicator	Data Source
0	% of adult population within rural areas who perceive their individual tenure to be secure	Prindex global dataset
1	% of adult population within the area determined – # of hectares [claimed, held or used] by IPs and LCs – who perceive their community's tenure to be secure	Key informant interview (KII) or focus group discussion (FGD) with national-level representatives of IP & LC communities or expert key informants
2		KII or FGD with a nationally-representative probability-based sample of IP & LC group or community leader(s)
3		FGDs with convenience sample (not probability-based) of community members from a representative probability-based sample of communities
4		Individual-level interviews with a representative probability-based sample of communities and community members

INDIRECT

DIRECT

Monitoring Collective Tenure Security in the Global Biodiversity Framework

Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

2050 Framework Goals (Goals A – D)

Reducing threats to biodiversity (Targets 1-8)

Meeting people's needs through sustainable use and benefit sharing (Targets 9-13)

Tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming (Targets 14- 23)

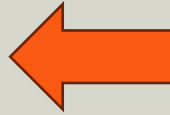
Traditional Knowledge Indicators

Linguistic diversity and number of speakers of indigenous languages

Land use change and land tenure in traditional territories of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities

Practice of traditional occupations

Degree to which traditional knowledge and practices are respected through the full integration, participation and safeguards in national implementation of strategic plan.



Land Portal

How complete and open is land data around the world?



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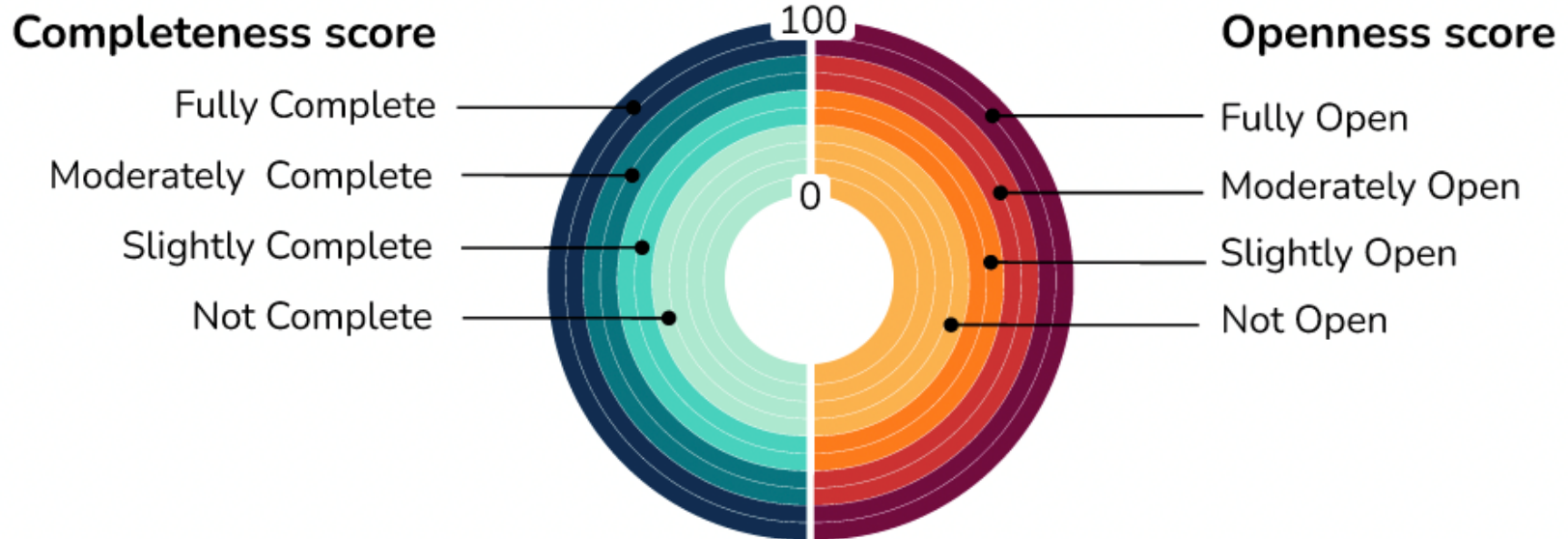
HOW

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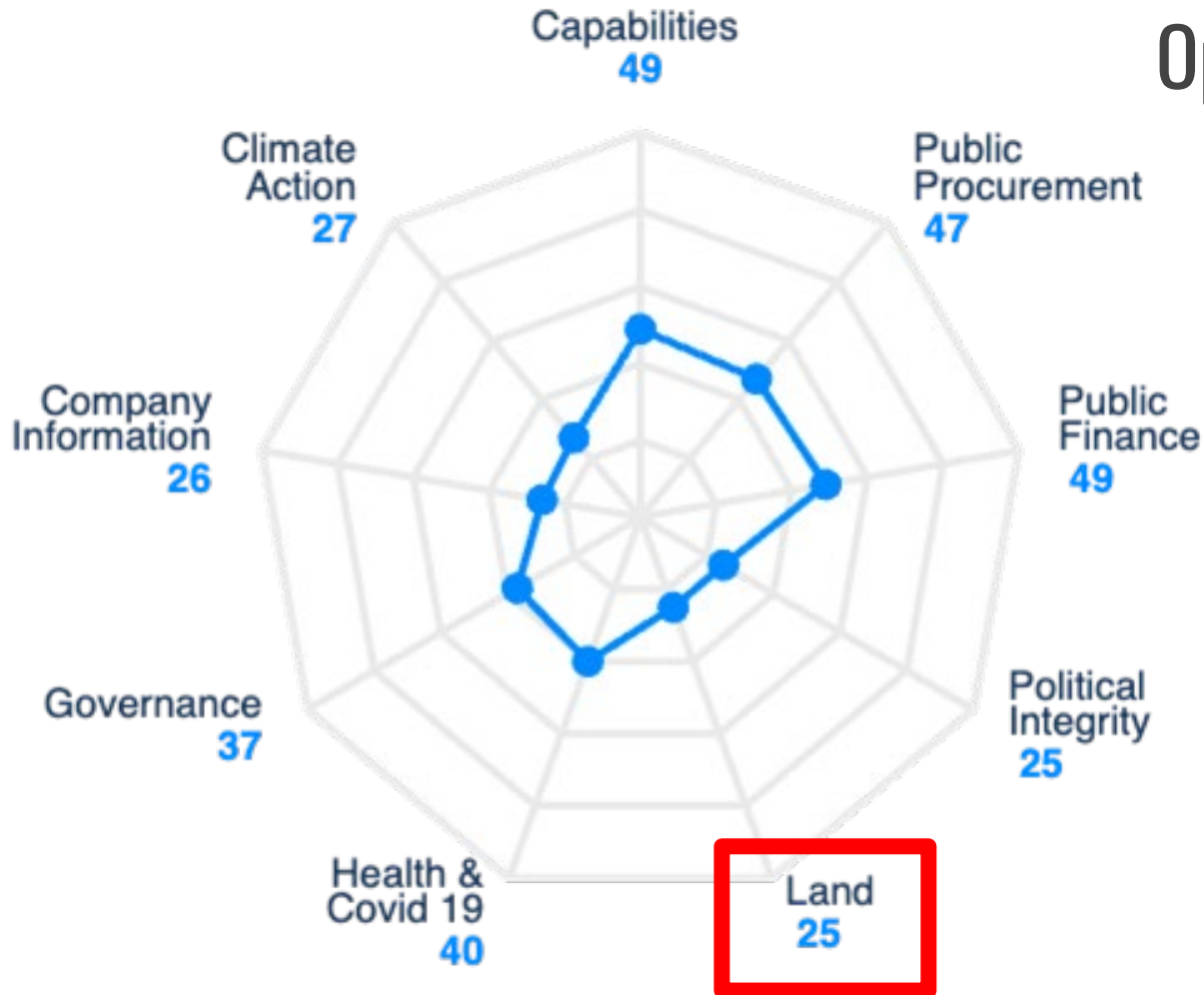
Land data custodians, policy-makers, researchers, land + development practitioners, open data advocates

How complete and open is land data around the world?



Openness of Public Data

Land-related data is consistently ranked lowest to be open, compared to data about the climate, public finances, public procurement, and health.



Source: Openness of Public Data, Global Data Barometer 2023

International Land Coalition



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2

**PEOPLE'S DATA
IS PRODUCED
AND USED TO HOLD
GOVERNMENTS
AND CORPORATIONS
ACCOUNTABLE**

People's data on informing progress towards the goals of the Rio Conventions

LandMark informing CBD work

LandMark as an opportunity to obtain data on the land indicator for reporting

Local examples

- NLC Senegal, NLC Cameroon and NLC Togo - working on SDG alternative reports.
 - NLC South Africa - engaging in climate change discussions and looking to see how LANDEX indicators on climate and youth could inform national level advocacy.
 - NLC Malawi - working on CESSCR alternative report
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