

HOW IS IGAD WORKING TO INCORPORATE YOUTH PERSPECTIVES AND PARTICIPATION IN LAND MANAGEMENT POLICIES, AND WHAT CHALLENGES HAVE YOU FACED IN PROMOTING YOUTH ENGAGEMENT AT THE GOVERNMENTAL LEVEL?

Jesse Maurice Kijjambu-

Policy Analyst Ministry of Lands, Housing and
Urban Development/ IGAD Youth and Land
Steering Committee Member

LINKAGE TO EXISTING STRUCTURES



PEACE, PROSPERITY AND
REGIONAL INTEGRATION



LAND GOVERNANCE



Youth & Land



IGAD YOUTH & LAND
STREAMING COMMITTEE

Representatives from the ministries responsible for land in each of the IGAD 8 member states together with representation from Civil Society Organizations. Implement through ministries as IGAD works with government.



Youth & Land



Yilaa.org
a dynamic youth for land



YLMPA
Youth and Land
Multi-stakeholder
Platform in Africa

**INTERNATIONAL
LAND
COALITION**

THE GENESIS

- The primary objective (IGAD Youth and Land Program was) to **create opportunities for young people to engage in decision-making processes regarding land management, tenure, and utilization, while also promoting sustainable and equitable land practices.**
- **A Youth and Land Governance strategy was born out of this initiative in 2020**

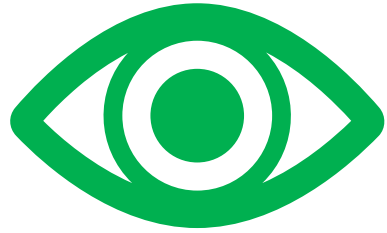
IGAD prioritizes the following issues in the implementation of the AU Declaration on land issues and challenges in Africa.

- Land and natural resources degradation.
- Land governance and migration.
- Land tenure insecurity and land administration challenges.
- Land and conflict.
- **Weak rights to land of youth, women, pastoralists and other vulnerable groups.**

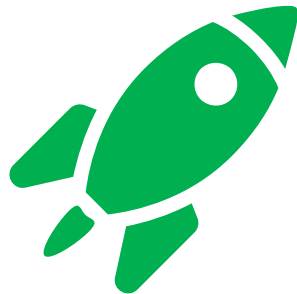
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY ON DEVELOPMENT (IGAD)

YOUTH AND LAND GOVERNANCE STRATEGY

2020-2025



Rights of youth to access, utilize and control land for their benefit and that of future generations are fully recognized and acted upon. *Youth are empowered through participation in land policy, planning, decision-making and implementation processes as well as strong partnerships with all stakeholders involved.*



To support the realization of this vision through enabling IGAD Secretariat, member states and stakeholders to act to sustain and/or create enabling conditions supportive of youth mainstreaming into land governance for the attainment of positive development outcomes.



Youth participation and inclusion



Policy and Legislation



Equality

Information and
knowledge Access



Economic
Empowerment

Milestones



Community needs assessment

International Youth Day Awareness Conference

Situation Analysis & Strategy Development

2021

2022

2019



2019

2019

2020

Inauguration of the IGAD Youth & Land Program

Community of Practice Pilot

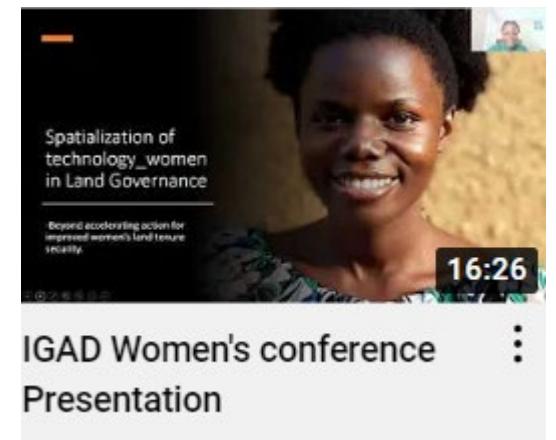
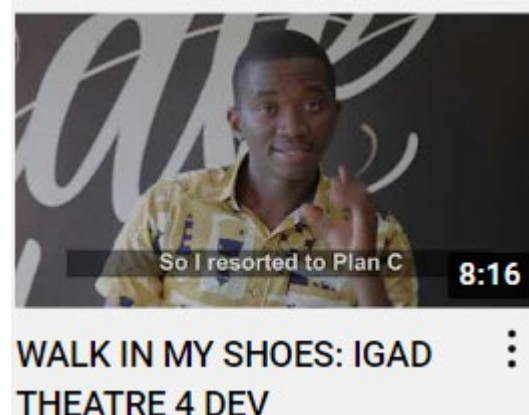
Strategy Launch; First International Youth Conference.



HOW ARE THEY SUPPORTING YOUTH INCLUSION AND PARTICIPATION IN LAND GOVERNANCE IN AFRICA?

- Education and Awareness – Community of Practice.
- Activism and Representation – Annual IGAD Youth and Land Governance Conference
- Capacity Building
- Technology and Innovation
- Policy Advocacy

<https://www.youtube.com/@igadyouthlandgovernance7064>



CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED



- Limited Funding for project implementation
- Gaps in Intercountry Coordination given varying political atmospheres

CONCLUSION

- IGAD Youth and Land Program has emerged as a powerful and impactful initiative, steadily gaining momentum and fostering positive change across the region.
- It has a big potential to become a catalyst for even greater regional cooperation, sustainable land management, and inclusive development, setting a precedent for youth and land governance in Africa.



Thank you for listening!!



Youth & Land

STRENGTHENING POLICY DEVELOPMENT KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER THROUGH COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE: **IGAD Youth and Land Experiences**

Jesse Maurice Kijjambu-

Policy Analyst Ministry of Lands, Housing and
Urban Development/ IGAD Youth and Land
Steering Committee Member



Outline



Introduction

IGAD Youth and Land Program (Who we are)

- A diverse and talented steering committee of youth across the IGAD Member states (***Uganda, Djibouti, Eriteria, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan***)
- This initiative champions the active involvement of young people in the discourse on land governance
- Born against the backdrop of an increasing age and gender gap in the land policymaking spaces across the Horn of Africa—a region beset by environmental and socio-economic challenges.
- Since inception in 2019, it has been the beacon of empowerment and opportunity for young people across the region.
- Designed to address critical intersection of youth engagement and land rights
- This initiative stands as a testament to IGAD's commitment to fostering sustainable development and Inclusive land governance.



AFRICA PASTORALIST EXPO

The East African Mosaic | አርቶ አደርነት: የምስራቅ አፍሪካ ጎብረ ቀለም



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Why Community of Practice?

- They been pivotal in navigating the intricate landscape of land rights and youth engagement
- Many programs focus on empowering communities and reducing land and environmental conflicts.
- Serves as a vibrant platform facilitating key activities aimed at broadening access to land dialogue spaces, showcasing specialized capabilities, and enhancing shared experiences among peers throughout the IGAD region.
- In 2022, we organized regional workshops designed to introduce cutting-edge land technologies to youth officers in targeted government ministries and departments within the IGAD region.
- Our aim was to develop a model for institutions like IGAD to prioritize youth participation in enhancing land governance policies, such as dispute resolution and leveraging land as a means of investment and empowerment.



Why Community of Practice (Cont'd)

- The theme of these workshops was “***Wednesdays for Youth and Land***”.
- The steering committee successfully advocated for a ***Ministerial directive ensuring participation was exclusively for youth professionals aged 35 and under.***
- This directive was crucial in providing a safe space for young voices to express their constraints and to explore opportunities where they could apply their talents. ***To support seamless technological integration and develop pragmatic solutions to enduring challenges that continue to challenge our leadership.***

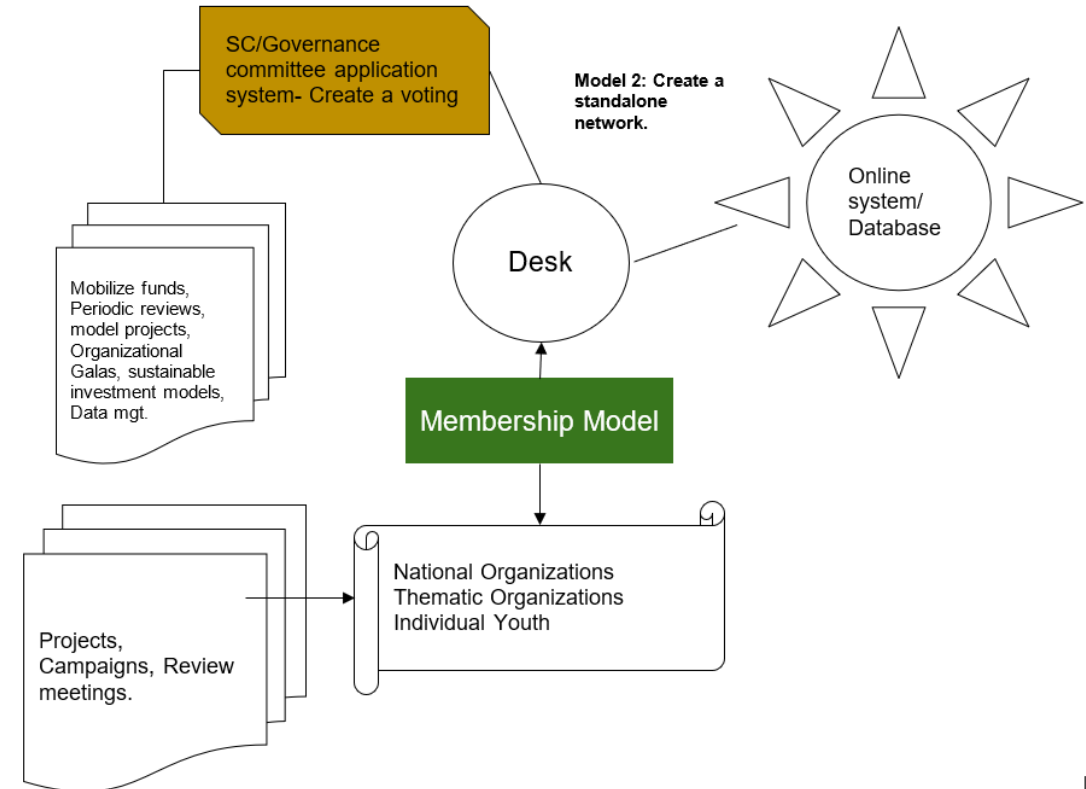


Outcomes of community of practice workshops

Centralized at the IGAD secretariat

The development of a strategic model

To establish a multi-talented monitoring group (the steering committee) aimed at enhancing shared knowledge and fostering youth innovation in land discussions.





Outcomes of community of practice workshops (Cont'd)



- Enhanced communication strategies to bridge the mentorship gap, including spotlight blogs for young professionals, particularly those in government who have led special initiatives.
- These platforms are designed to inspire and motivate peers, underscoring the critical impact of their contributions to transforming the landscape of land governance for youth empowerment.
- Currently: LinkedIn & Twitter are our spaces of engagement: Annual Conferences where we create exhibition booths:

Way forward



Youth & Land

Establishing a funding stream dedicated to the execution implementation the youth activities specifically the youth and land strategy will support manifestation of the various arranged projects like our community of practice model that brings desired learning experiences from young experts around the member states to foster knowledge transfer.



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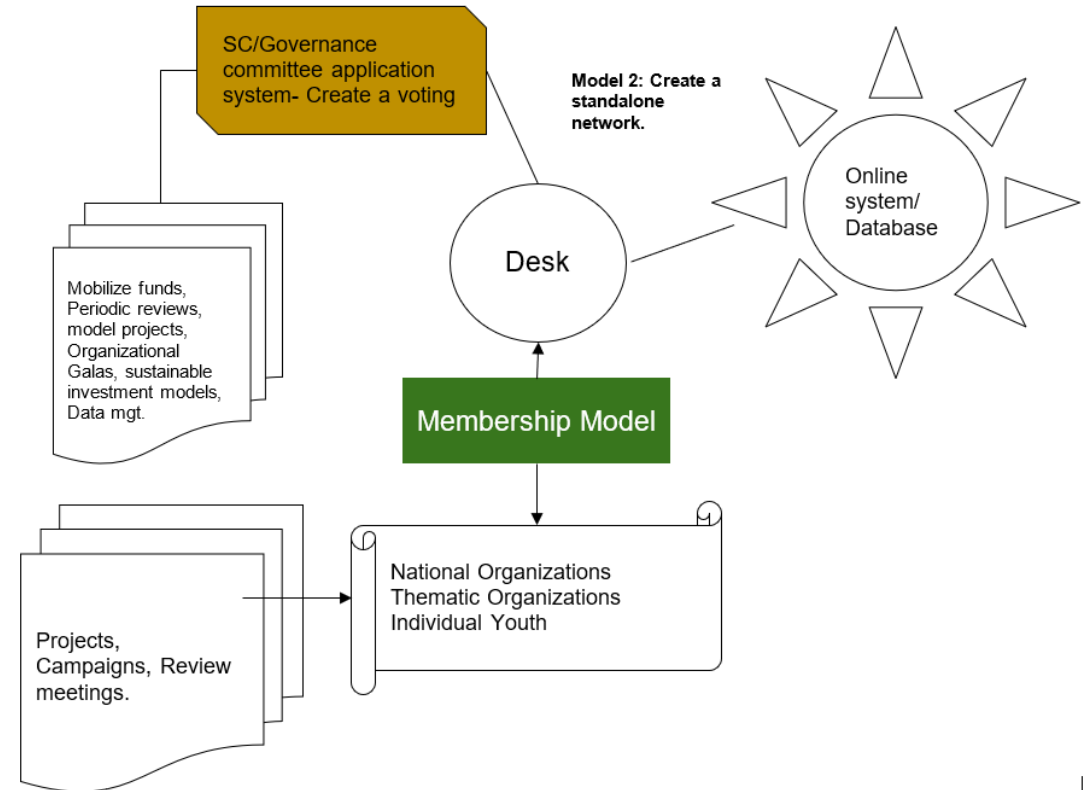


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