World Bank Land Conference 2025

STRENGTHENING LAND GOVERNANCE FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE: STRATEGIES AND LESSONS FROM EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

07th May 2025 Washington, DC

UGANDA

GLTN

GLOBAL LAND TOOL NETWORK

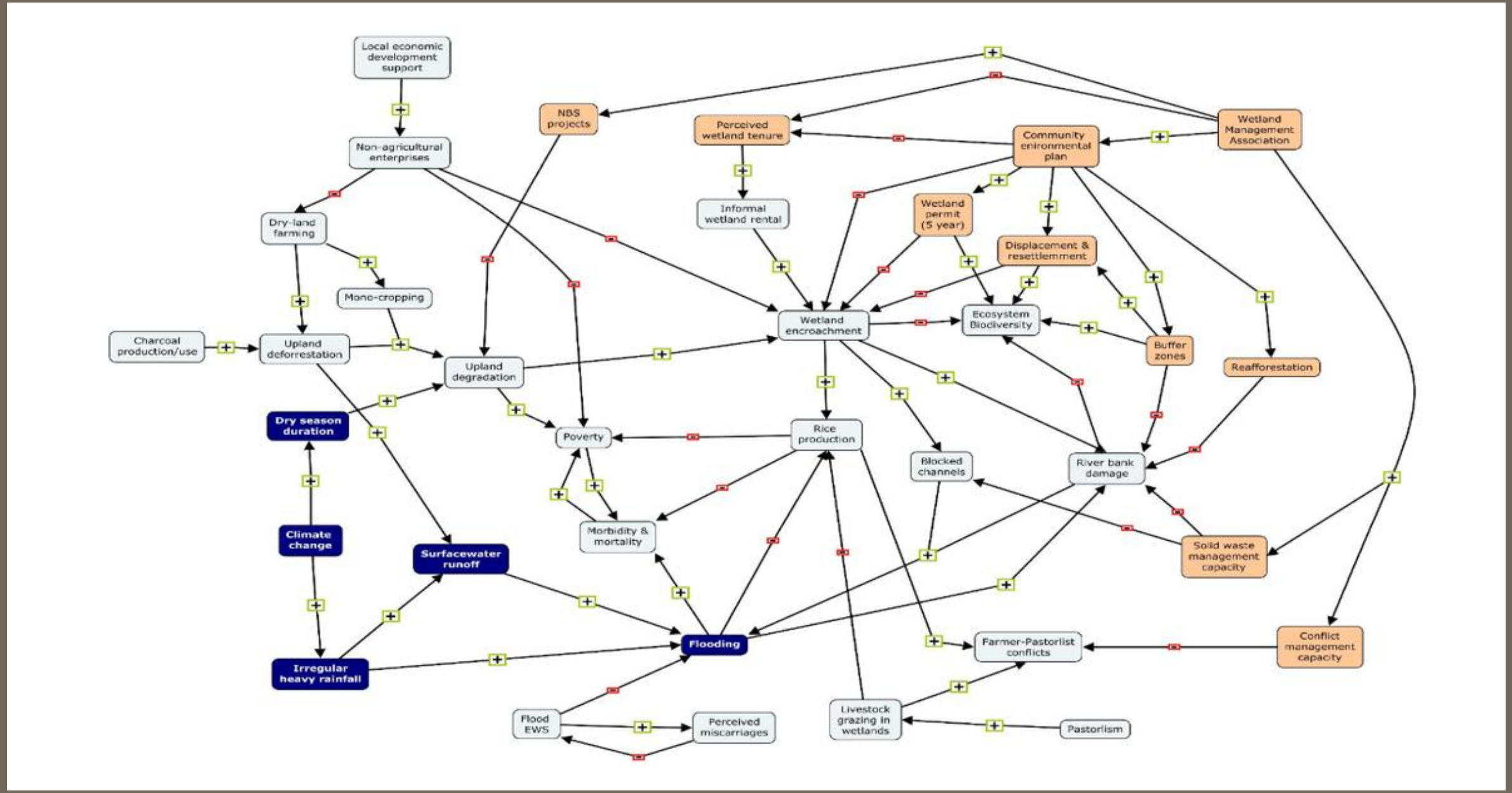
SECURING LAND AND PROPERTY RIGHTS FOR ALL

Community-Based Approach on Wetland Management Planning: Lessons from Uganda

07th May 2025

FACILITATED BY:

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Local economic development support
NBS projects
Perceived wetland tenure
Wetland Management Association
Non-agricultural enterprises
Community environmental plan
Informal wetland rental
Wetland permit (5 year)
Dry-land farming
Displacement & resettlemment
Mono-cropping
Wetland encroachment
Ecosystem Biodiversity
Charcoal production/use
Upland deforestation
Buffer zones
Upland degradation
Reafforestation
Dry season duration
Poverty
Rice production
Blocked channels
River bank damage
Climate change
Morbidity & mortality
Surfacewater runoff
Solid waste management capacity
Flooding
Farmer-Pastorlist conflicts
Conflict management capacity
Irregular heavy rainfall
Flood EWS
Perceived miscarriages
Livestock grazing in wetlands
Pastorlism

LAND-at-Scale in Uganda Project

Building on the experiences and lessons of the Past Projects, **the Overall Goal** of Uganda Land at Scale Project is to contribute to the development of a structured and scalable approach towards **improved tenure security and sustainable land use** for men, women and youth on customary land, in a participatory way. Achieved through;

1) **Improved tenure security** for men, women and youth
2) **Inclusive, climate-smart and sustainable land use planning**
3) **Improved capacity and awareness** of key land stakeholders on customary land registration and land use planning.

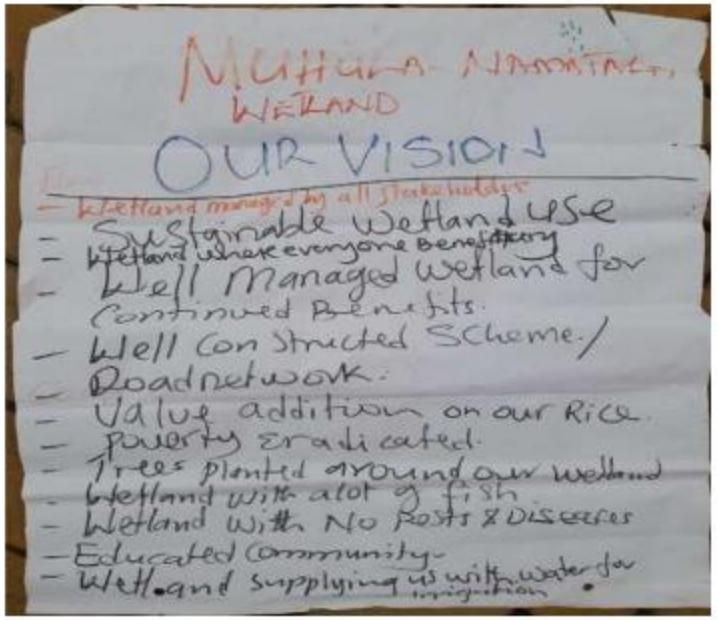


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Key outcomes

- **Effective Community Wetland Governance** through Wetland Associations and Committees
- **Awareness Raising on Responsible Wetland Management and Use** through sensitization and wetland resource analysis
- **Sustainable Wetland Management** through Wetland Management planning, respect of buffer zones, restoration activities and mapping wetland use rights
- **Conflict resolution** through Alternative dispute resolution







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Why a Community-based Approach?

- **Enhances local knowledge** of wetland ecosystems and the importance of conservation.
- **Promotes a sense of ownership and stewardship** towards the wetlands.
- **Promotes community engagement and participation** in land registration wetland management processes.
- **Strengthens local institutions and organizations** involved in land and wetland management.
- **Raises awareness among**





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LESSONS LEARNED

- Establishment of Community Wetland Planning Committees and Management Committees play an important role during community led approaches.
- Engaging a wide range of stakeholders, from local leaders to wetland users and youth groups, ensures that diverse perspectives are considered in the management planning broadens the scope of solutions and increases community buy-in.
- The participation of women and the incorporation of gender-transformative approaches in wetland management planning is essential
- Continuous awareness raising is effective in addressing mindset change.
- Organizing learning exchanges for the wetland users is important





BURUNDI

World Bank Land Conference
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Land Governance and Climate Resilience: Handling opposing human and environmental interests

Experiences from LAND-at-scale Burundi

Prepared by:

Timothée Rukundo | Country Director ZOA D.R. Congo | t.rukundo@zoa.ngo

Séverin Mugangu | Senior Land Expert, ZOA D.R. Congo | s.mugangu@zoa.ngo

Alexandra Emerusenge – 't Lam | Sector Specialist Land Rights, ZOA International | a.tlam@zoa.ngo

Key question

How to balance opposing interests in land tenure registration programs?





Protection of the environment for improved climate resilience

Vs.

Protection of land tenure security & livelihoods for local communities

LAND-at-scale in the Burundian context

History & context: High population density, high dependency on agricultural land, land scarcity, history of civil war, population displacements (refugee – returnee), complex and numerous land conflicts

Climate change effects: Disrupted weather patterns, erosion and landslides, rising levels of Lake Tanganyika, deforestation

AMAHORO-at-scale: Contributing to improved land tenure security, land use management and land governance in Burundi

Opposing human and environmental interests

Inventory of state land before registration of private lands. Including the identification and demarcation of natural reserves and protection zones of Lake Tanganyika, rivers and forests

Brought to light: Communities (administratively recognized) located within natural reserves and protection zones.

How to balance the opposing interests of securing land tenure for community members and protecting the environment within land tenure registration interventions?

Towards mutually reinforcing interests

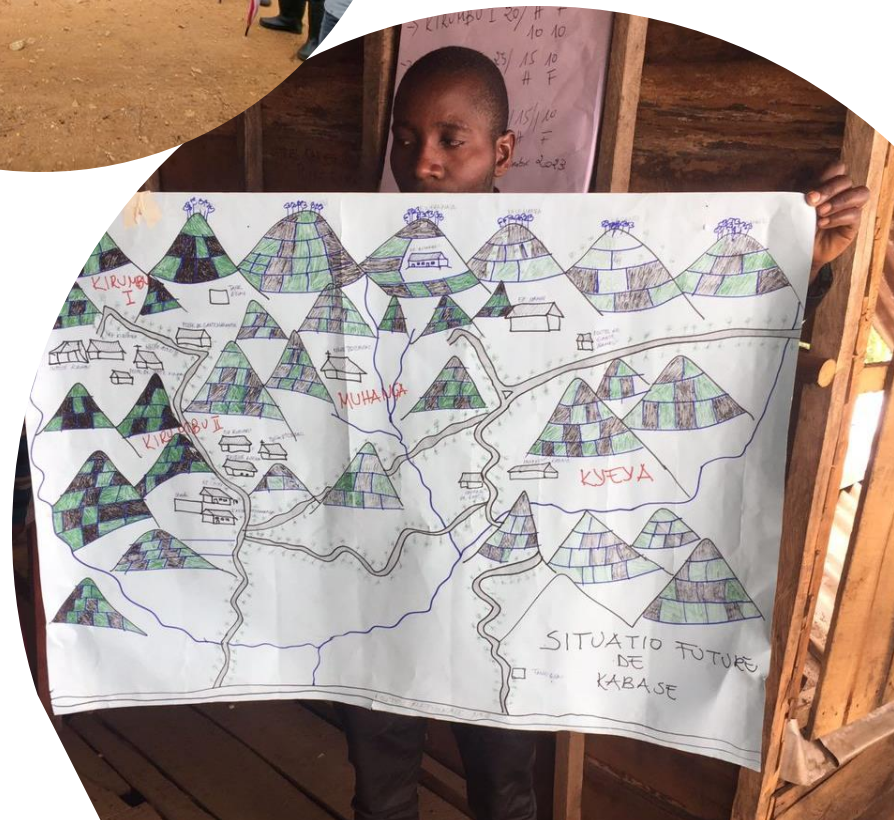
Relocation of the population is not desirable nor executable.

Close collaboration with different levels of (land) governance to advocate for (at least) secured user rights for the communities in the concerned areas.

Jointly formulate conditions / responsibilities for the communities to protect the natural reserves.

Close collaboration with the concerned communities to develop livelihood strategies that will not harm but protect the natural reserve (PIP approach – Environment stewardship).





Solutions based on the context



Burundi has a complex context of land governance challenges and climate change effects in which the LAND-at-scale project is operating to improve land tenure security and land governance.

The inventory of state lands, including natural reserves and environmental protection zones, revealed the opposing interests of community land tenure security and protection of the environment.

Integrated strategies are needed for securing land tenure and protecting the environment for mutually reinforcing interests, supporting both local capacities as well as national policies.



MOZAMBIQUE

Centro Terra Viva
Estudos e Advocacia Ambiental

NEXUS BETWEEN LAND GOVERNANCE AND CLIMATE CHANGE

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LAND-at-scale project In Mozambique

Scaling Community Legal Literacy, Land Rights Certification and Climate Resilience in Mozambique

The main objective of the Land at Scale Program is to increase community legal awareness and strengthen security of land tenure rights, creating capacity at local level to implement and leverage the progressive provisions of the Mozambican legal framework. Thus contributing to community preparation to intervene in an informed manner in the land sector and will also contribute to the delimitation of community and individual land-use rights based on good faith occupation and customary rights, and their integration into the formal land system.

NEXUS BETWEEN LAND GOVERNANCE AND CLIMATE CHANGE

That there is a relationship between land governance (LG) and climate change (CC) is inevitable. However, it requires a considerable effort to figure out the specific relationships for a specific context.

Climate change is now generally accepted as one of the world's most pressing global challenges, and it has very strong links to land and land use and therefore to land governance.

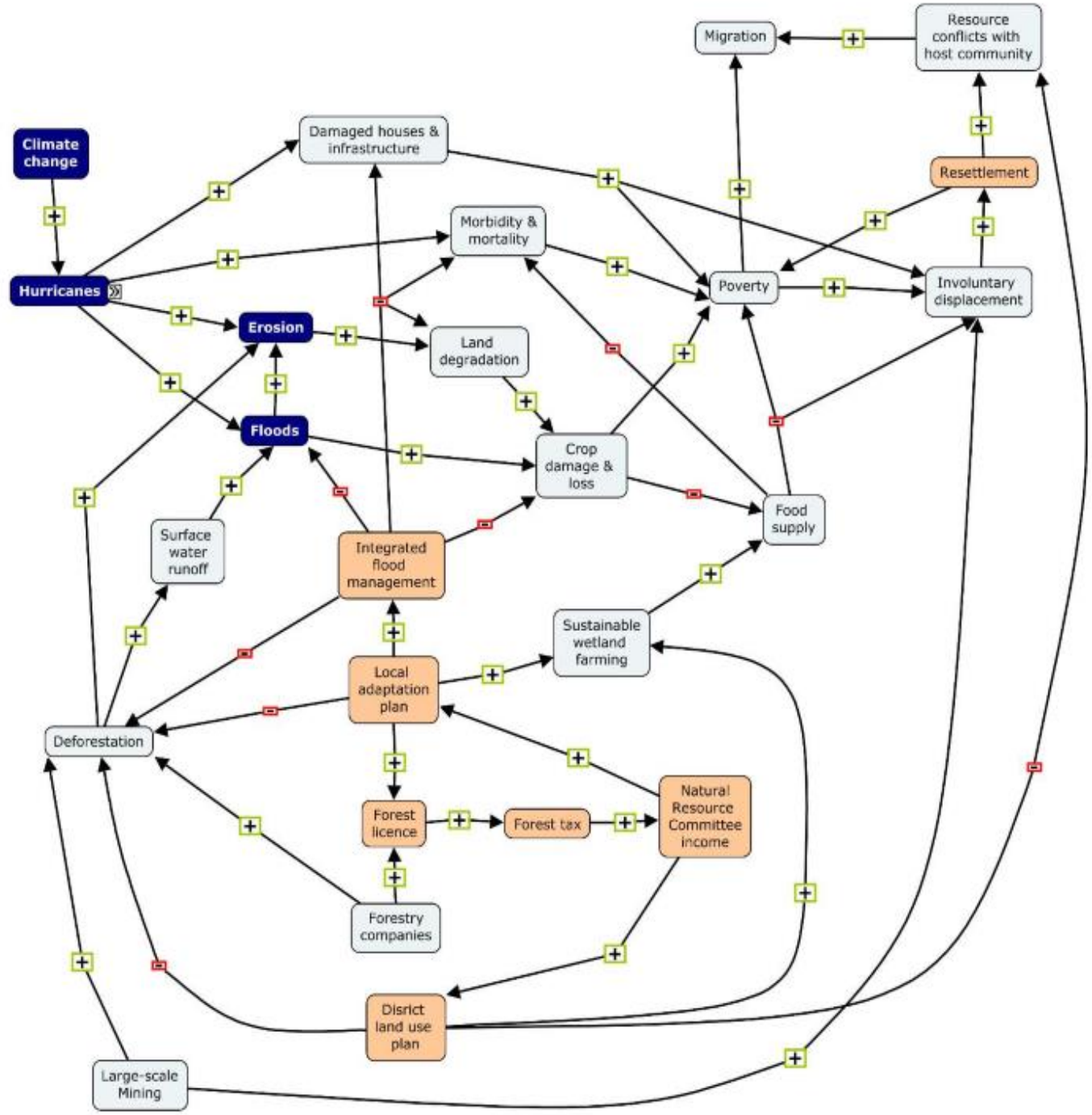
Therefore, we believe there is an informal relationship between land governance and climate change. We say informal because, on the one hand, the legal framework for land, although it mentions climate change, does not determine how land should be managed according to the needs arising from climate change.

KEY ASPECTS

- Identified an informal relationship between land governance and climate change.
- the complex relationship between land governance action and its effects on climate resilience remains to be confirmed by empirical evidence.
- disseminated information on climate change in the campaign in the form of environmental education and awareness-raising, keeping it as the most practical approach to climate adaptation and mitigation.






Climate change
Hurricanes
Damaged houses & infrastructure
Migration
Resource conflicts with host community
Resettlement
Morbidity & mortality
Poverty
Involuntary displacement
Erosion
Land degradation
Floods
Crop damage & loss
Food supply
Surface water runoff
Integrated flood management
Sustainable wetland farming
Local adaptation plan
Deforestation
Forest licence
Forest tax
Natural Resource Committee income
Forestry companies
Disrict land use plan
Large-scale Mining

CONCLUSIONS

- it is important to recognise and act on the assumption that there is a relationship between land governance and climate resilience.
- it is important to study how this relationship is triggered and based on the analysis, to influence it so that it becomes a formal relationship that can be shared and widely disseminated.
- it is necessary for land governance interventions to anticipate climate change and to design, build and implement land governance mechanisms that will also aid in increasing the climate resilience of citizens, communities, and society in general.

DRC

DR Congo: Family farming as the cornerstone of inclusive land and agricultural reform

Timothée Rukundo

Alexandra Emerusenge - 't Lam

Séverin Mugangu

Summary

Family farming in the context of inclusive land and agricultural reforms in the DRC.

Family farming and climate protection in the DRC



For land and agricultural reform to be truly inclusive, it is essential to recognize and value the contributions of smallholder farmers through:

- Fair access to land for rural communities, which are often marginalized by land grabbing practices or the absence of clear regulations.
- Strengthening rural infrastructure to improve farmers' productivity and well-being.
- Taking into account the ecological dimension to promote sustainable agricultural practices.



By placing family farming at the center of these reforms, the DRC could not only address the challenges of poverty and food security, but also build a solid foundation for social and economic resilience.



The separation of these two reform processes (land and agricultural) in the DRC has resulted in equity in access to land not being taken into account.

The social injustices generated by previous land tenure systems have not been addressed and corrected.

The paradoxical choice of agricultural development model in the DRC: three observations

1

Despite the number of people it employs and its crucial role in the food security of urban and rural households, support for family farming is curiously not a priority for the DRC, which allocates 2% of its budget to the agricultural sector.

2

Sixteen million Congolese households, representing more than 65% of the population, live mainly in rural areas covering 70% of the country's territory and are engaged in agricultural production, mainly subsistence farming and informal activities. Family farming employs more than 70% of the working population.

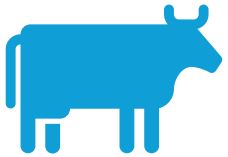
3

Paradoxically, the land and agricultural reforms currently underway in the DRC favor industrial agriculture (agro-industrial parks, special economic zones, and plantations) and intermediate agriculture (family-type farms).



Although modern agriculture offers opportunities to improve agricultural productivity and food security in the DRC, it also presents challenges.

- High cost
- Dependence on external inputs
- Environmental problems
- Loss of biodiversity
- Economic dependence
- Social problems
- Land ownership issues



Arguments in favor of the peasant model of agricultural development in the DRC



A peasant model of agricultural development in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), on the other hand, has several advantages that deserve consideration:

- Resilience to crises
- Social inclusion
- Strengthening food security
- Promoting local resources
- Creating rural jobs
- Promoting rural entrepreneurship

Linking family farming with climate protection: Integrated REDD+ Programs and the TRIDE Project

Inclusive and sustainable development.

By focusing on family farming, access to land, integrated water resource management, and agricultural value chains, the PIREDDs and the TRIDE project seek to address several of the systemic challenges that hinder sustainable development in eastern DRC.

The **PIREDD** (Integrated REDD+ Programs) in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) are initiatives aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions linked to deforestation and forest degradation. These programs focus on several aspects, including:

Sustainable natural resource management
Land tenure security and land use planning
Ecosystem preservation
Improvement of living conditions

The **TRIDE** project, or "Transition for Inclusive Development," is an initiative aimed at revitalizing the local economy in the provinces of North Kivu and South Kivu in the Democratic Republic of Congo. This project focuses on several key aspects:

The Integrated Farmer Plan
Facilitating access to land
Integrated water resource management
Promoting inclusive agricultural value chains
Improving local governance