

FLAGSHIP 5: GOVERNANCE OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Strengthening tenure over land, water, trees, and other natural resources for the poor, particularly women • Facilitating shared use of resources within landscapes • Governance of natural resources for sustainability and harmony



Photo credit: Mokhammad Edliadi/CIFOR

RESEARCH CLUSTERS

Cluster 5.1: Enhancing Tenure Security

Cluster 5.2: Governing Shared Landscapes

GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS

Africa (Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Nigeria, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia), Asia (Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Vietnam), Latin America (Guatemala).

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

What are the drivers and consequences of tenure insecurity?

What mechanisms and institutional arrangements can address threats to tenure security and strengthen tenure over land, water, and other natural resources?

What tools and indicators can be used to assess tenure security and create accountability for implementation of reforms?

How can the interests and knowledge of different actors sharing a common landscape be identified and reconciled in ways that better secure the livelihoods of women, youth, and other poor and vulnerable groups?

How can a better understanding of political economy processes contribute to more equitable outcomes for the poorest users within shared landscapes?

RECENT FINDINGS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Flagship 5 teams from ICRISAT and IFPRI are testing [experimental games](#) to improve skills of community members to manage groundwater and related water infrastructure in India. In 2017, games were carried out together with [Foundation for Ecological Security](#) (FES) and in coordination with the respective Panchayats (basic units of local administration in India) and watershed committees. FES is including the games among their methods for working with communities, and communities have expressed intent to incorporate the games into regular Panchayat functions.

In 2017 PIM researchers worked with the [African Land Policy Centre](#) to develop a framework for the [Monitoring and Evaluation for Land in Africa \(MELA\)](#) project. The MELA framework is being piloted by 12 countries to track progress on commitments made under the African Union Declaration on Land Governance in Africa.

A [study in Ghana](#) found that inherited land was perceived as more secure than land allocated by traditional authorities. A separate [study in Ethiopia](#) found that access to more inherited land reduced the likelihood of long distance migration of rural youth.

The [Collaborating for Resilience](#) approach, developed by WorldFish in PIM's Phase 1 (2012-2016), provides a structured framework for understanding how groups interact and organize for change. [International Land Coalition](#) is

applying this framework to increase the effectiveness of their National Engagement Strategies, which form coalitions of civil society and government agencies to work for pro-poor land governance in 22 countries.

CIFOR's research on community management of forests showed that unless farmers and communities have [secure rights to forests](#), they are unlikely to invest in restoration. [Research in Nepal](#) in partnership with [ForestAction](#) demonstrated that devolving selected rights to communities contributes to increased investment in sustainable value addition for forest products. Work in Guatemala, Mexico, Namibia, and Nepal [showed](#) that communities with secure tenure were able to attract private investment in activities that created local jobs and incomes.

Issues of rights to rangelands are of growing importance (see, for example, the 2016 multi-agency report [Confronting Drought in Africa's Drylands](#) to which PIM contributed). In 2017, research teams supported by PIM worked on rangeland issues in Tunisia and Tanzania. In Tunisia, the work is contributing to development of a new national rangeland code.

PIM researchers from ILRI along with partners developed [joint village land use planning](#) tool and guidelines in Ethiopia and Tanzania. After successful piloting, the approach is being scaled up in Tanzania through the National Land Use Planning Commission Guidelines.

CONNECT WITH FLAGSHIP 5

To engage with PIM on governance of natural resources, please contact the Flagship 5 Co-leaders:

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More about Flagship 5: <https://pim.cgiar.org/research/f5/>

More about Policies, Institutions, and Markets (PIM) program: www.pim.cgiar.org

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