

Inter-institutional collaboration to improve local land governance in Chad

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SUMMARY

Chad faces significant challenges in providing tenure security to its citizens, with land issues accounting for more than 85% of all court cases. These challenges are rooted in the impacts of climate change, the lack of rural-urban linkages and poor land governance, manifested in non-transparent and costly land and property registration processes. To support Chad's efforts to improve land tenure security, the Dutch Embassy, through the LAND at Scale programme, has funded the project "Improvement of local land governance in Chad / Amélioration de la gouvernance foncière locale du Tchad ", implemented by a consortium between Oxfam, FAO and Kadaster in collaboration with Chadian stakeholders. □ The intended impact of this project is equitable governance and sustainable management of land and natural resources, ensuring secure land rights and tenure, especially for vulnerable groups. □ □ The project approach involves understanding Chad's social structures and land governance systems to develop and test methods for securing land rights in two pilot areas. This approach is anchored in partnerships among the government and the multi-stakeholder committee to inform the ongoing land reform. □ The consortium partners bring together a unique combination of disciplinary perspectives and extensive social, technical and institutional experience of land governance in Chad at both national and local levels. They also offer the widest established outreach and consolidated partnerships with key stakeholders, including government, civil society, research institutions and traditional authorities involved in land administration processes in Chad. However, the set-up is challenging due to different working modalities, different focus areas and different cultural backgrounds. While the consortium brings together diverse perspectives and extensive experience, successful collaboration requires joint activities, mutual understanding and effective communication to navigate the project in the Chadian land sector and meet the expectations of Chadian partners. This paper discusses the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) of this collaborative approach as well as elaborating on (institutional) risks and mitigation strategies. It also includes findings from

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interviews reflecting on the effectiveness of key stakeholder collaboration. While the focus of this paper is on the context and working arrangements in this project, the findings of this investigation can also serve as an example for other inter-institutional collaborations in different geographical contexts as effective collaboration within consortia is a commonly recognised challenge.

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