



# Linking Land Tenure and Use for Shared Prosperity

ANNUAL WORLD BANK CONFERENCE ON LAND AND POVERTY  
WASHINGTON DC, MARCH 23-27, 2015



The World Bank is pleased to announce the 16th [Annual World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty](#) being held from **March 23 – 27, 2015** at the World Bank Headquarters in Washington D.C. Participants include leaders and professionals from across governments, civil society, academia, the private sector and partners to interact and discuss innovative approaches to improving land governance. Last year's conference attracted more than 1,000 participants from 101 countries; 60 percent of participants were from developing countries, and about a fourth representing government officials and another fourth from international organizations.

The theme for 2015 is **Linking Land Tenure and Use for Shared Prosperity**. The topic highlights that while land tenure affects the distribution of assets between men and women, generations, and social groups, patterns of land use will have far-reaching implications for welfare and other socio-economic outcomes at household, community, or landscape level. Although they are by no means a silver bullet, recent innovations in geospatial technologies provide exciting opportunities to document and analyze determinants as well as impacts of land use change that are of great relevance for policy, projects, and research in this area.

## Paper Themes and Submission

Papers are invited for presentation at the conference for the following thematic areas:

1. Land tenure, climate smart land use, and resilience.
2. The role of land tenure in effecting urban form, density, and urban-rural linkages.
3. Impacts of large scale land-based investment, implementation challenges, and policy implications.
4. Scalable approaches to improving tenure security and their impacts.
5. Using geospatial technologies to monitor land use, improve delivery of land services, and improve land governance.
6. Harnessing the potential of open data for transparency.
7. Advances with securing and protecting land rights from a gender perspective.
8. Innovations on improving access to justice.
9. Tenure security in conflict states and resource rich economies
10. Benchmarking, performance monitoring and policy dialogue: from local to global

Authors interested in presenting at the conference are requested to submit an initial 800 to 1,500 word abstract before **October 31th 2014** using [the online form](#). A technical committee will decide on paper acceptance and outcomes will be communicated by **December 1st, 2014**.

## Conference structure

The conference will start on March 23 at 5pm and conclude on March 27. A pre-conference workshop on 'monitoring land governance' will be held immediately preceding the opening session on March 23. Sessions comprising select papers and debates on important innovations and policy issues will run concurrently on March 24-26, together with poster presentations. An **innovation fair** featuring how innovations in technology and open data can help improve land governance at scale will be held on March 26 and a **post-conference learning day** on March 27 will offer hands-on classes to familiarize participants with cutting edge tools and techniques developed to help policy makers.

## March 26 — Innovation Fair

A new feature to be introduced to the 2015 Conference is a full day focusing on solutions for land administration and management. Service providers and technology vendors are invited to present solutions in a show-and-tell day. The scope of the Innovations fair is expected to cover land and geographic information systems, earth observation satellite imagery data acquisition and applications, aerial imagery, satellite positioning applications

and location based services, online services and e-governance, land surveying, data conversion, data security, standards, systems interoperability, open systems, social media, volunteer geographic information, etc. The Innovations Fair will encourage hands on interaction with conference participants looking for solutions to the land challenges of the post-2015 Development Agenda. The most innovative solution(s) will be recognized during the closing ceremony. Don't miss out on this opportunity to reach out globally with your innovative solutions for land administration and management!

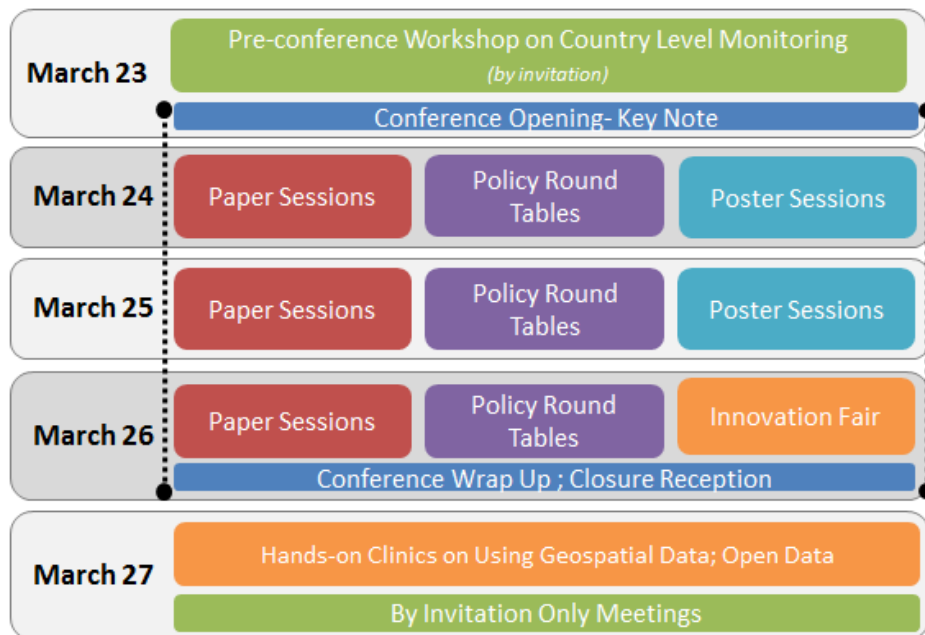
If you are interested in participating in the Innovations fair, please fill out the [online form](#).

### March 27 — Post-conference Learning Day

There has been considerable interest by participants to gain hands-on experience with cutting edge tools and techniques to access and analyze data in order to improve land governance. To respond to this interest, we will provide an opportunity to sponsors, partners, and those exhibiting in the innovation fair, to offer master classes or clinics for a limited number of participants in a classroom setting. Events will be published in the program book and participation will be by registration only, with the possibility of repeat classes if interest is high.

If you are interested in offering a masterclass, please fill out the [online proposal](#) by **November 15<sup>th</sup> 2014**. If we receive more proposals than we have rooms available, **preference will be given to sponsors**.

### 2015 Conference: Outline



If your organization is interested in being a sponsor or partner please visit our [website](#) for more information.

If you are interested in offering a masterclass or presenting at the innovation fair, please contact us at [landconference@worldbank.org](mailto:landconference@worldbank.org) or call 202-458-5628

**Please feel free to distribute this call to your networks.**