

PRRPB: a Project to Secure the Land Rights of the Most Vulnerable People

Aurélia Decherf, Aude Areste Lamendour (France), Severin Nibitanga (Burundi) and Jean Philippe Lestang (France)

Key words: Access to land; Risk management; Security of tenure; Keyword 1; Keyword 2; Keyword 3

SUMMARY

Burundi, which is part of the "Bonn Challenge" – that involves the restoration of 150 million hectares of degraded and deforested land by 2020, and 350 million hectares by 2030 - and the African Resilient Landscapes Initiative (forest and ecosystem restoration, biodiversity conservation, smart agriculture, pasture management), has committed to restore one million hectares of land by 2030.

The World Bank has supported the Burundian government in this effort through the Burundi Landscape Restoration and Resilience Project (PRRPB).

Supported by Burundi's Ministry of the Environment, Agriculture and Livestock, the PRRPB's land tenure sub-component aimed to clarify and secure land rights and resolve land tenure conflicts in the project's communes and hills. It is estimated that land disputes account for more than 70% of cases brought before Burundian courts. Securing land rights and reducing land disputes are therefore key factors in sustainable and peaceful agricultural and rural development.

At the end of the 26-month project, the IGN FI/ GEOFIT/ LADEC consortium has achieved very significant results, well beyond the contractual commitments of the consortium. More than 105,000 hillside surveys have been carried out in Buhinyuza, Isare and Matongo. In addition to this systematic certification approach, the consortium has experimented with voluntary registration of both spouses.

The consortium has developed a high-performance and robust land information system that allows the entire production chain to be digitised, which has enabled more than 103,000 land certificates to be produced over less than 20 months, in a challenging social environment. The most remarkable

PRRPB: a Project to Secure the Land Rights of the Most Vulnerable People (12584)

Aurélia Decherf, Aude Areste Lamendour (France), Severin Nibitanga (Burundi) and Jean Philippe Lestang (France)

FIG Working Week 2024

Your World, Our World: Resilient Environment and Sustainable Resource Management for all

Accra, Ghana, 19–24 May 2024

result lies with the strong woman adhesion that: over 70% of land certificates being with women's names on them.

This very positive indicator is undoubtedly the result of the major awareness campaigns carried out in the villages of the project's communes to encourage people to register their land holdings and thereby secure their rights.

More than 100,000 people have been made aware of land certification and the merits of recognising women's rights to household land.

In addition to the technical achievements presented in detail, the consortium also contributed its expertise in scaling-up strategies with a view to achieving national coverage of systematic land certification.

About IGN FI and the GEOFIT Group

IGN FI (www.ignfi.fr), is the international signature of the GEOFIT Group (<https://geofit-group.fr>), the leading firm of surveyors, and IGN, the French Institute for Geographic and Forestry Information (www.ign.fr).

IGN FI has been involved for 37 years in a wide range of development projects in the fields of land governance, land management support, land registration in rural and urban areas, and the design and rollout of land management information systems.

About LADEC

Land and Development Expertise Center, LADEC in acronym (www.ladec.bi) is a social enterprise under Burundian law. Set up in 2017 by Burundian experts, it is involved in research, capacity building for public and private stakeholders, facilitating frameworks for dialogue and implementing projects in the areas of land management and other natural resources, environment, spatial planning and community development.

PRRPB: a Project to Secure the Land Rights of the Most Vulnerable People (12584)

Aurélia Decherf, Aude Areste Lamendour (France), Severin Nibitanga (Burundi) and Jean Philippe Lestang (France)

FIG Working Week 2024

Your World, Our World: Resilient Environment and Sustainable Resource Management for all

Accra, Ghana, 19–24 May 2024