

Bringing Gender to the Surface of Land Administration: Experiences in the Philippines and Lao PDR

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Lao and Philippines: An Overview

	Philippines	LAO PDR
Population	97,976,603	6,834,942
- Males	50.04% (49,029,927)	49.62% (3,391,191)
- Females	49.96% (48,946,676)	50.38% (3,443,751)
- Below poverty line	30% (2003 est.)	30.7% (2005 est.)
Geography (land area)	Archipelago; 7,107 islands 300,000 sq km	Landlocked 230,800 sq km
Signing of CEDAW	July 15, 1980	July 17, 1980

Source: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html>



Two Land Administration Projects

- Philippines-Australia Land Administration and Management Project
- Lao-Australia Property Rights and Land Titling Project

Why Involve Women in Land Titling?

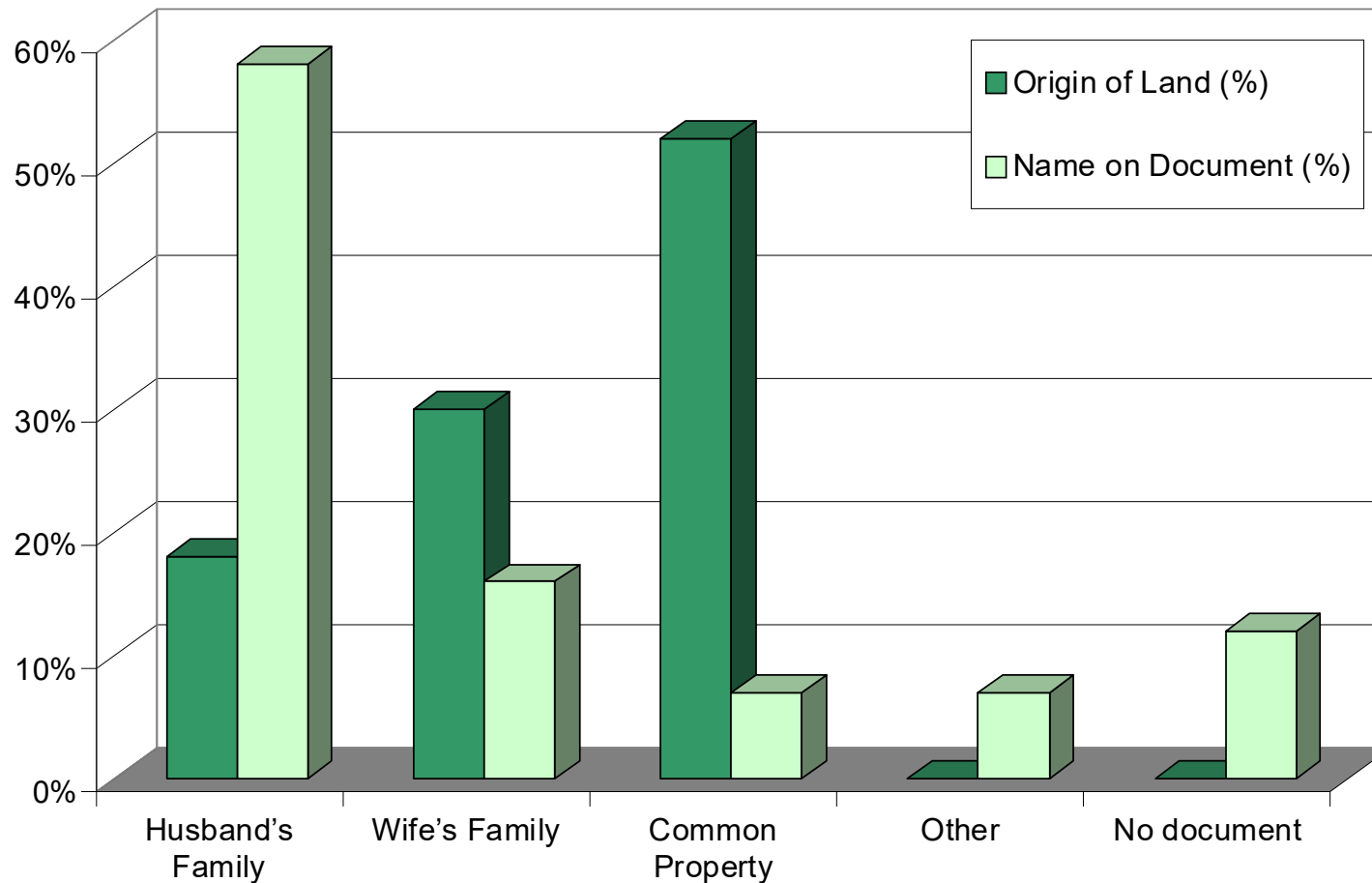
- **P**rotection of women land rights
- **R**ecognition of women's value in family and society
- **A**ppreciation of women's actual and potential contributions to land development
- **S**trengthening of women's economic resource
- **E**ngagement of women in redressing gender gap issues in land administration



Gender Situation of Land Administration Systems

- General dominance of men, **as heads of households**, in formal land ownership or land title user right – in the past or before the LTP for Lao and to the present in mainstream Philippine society.

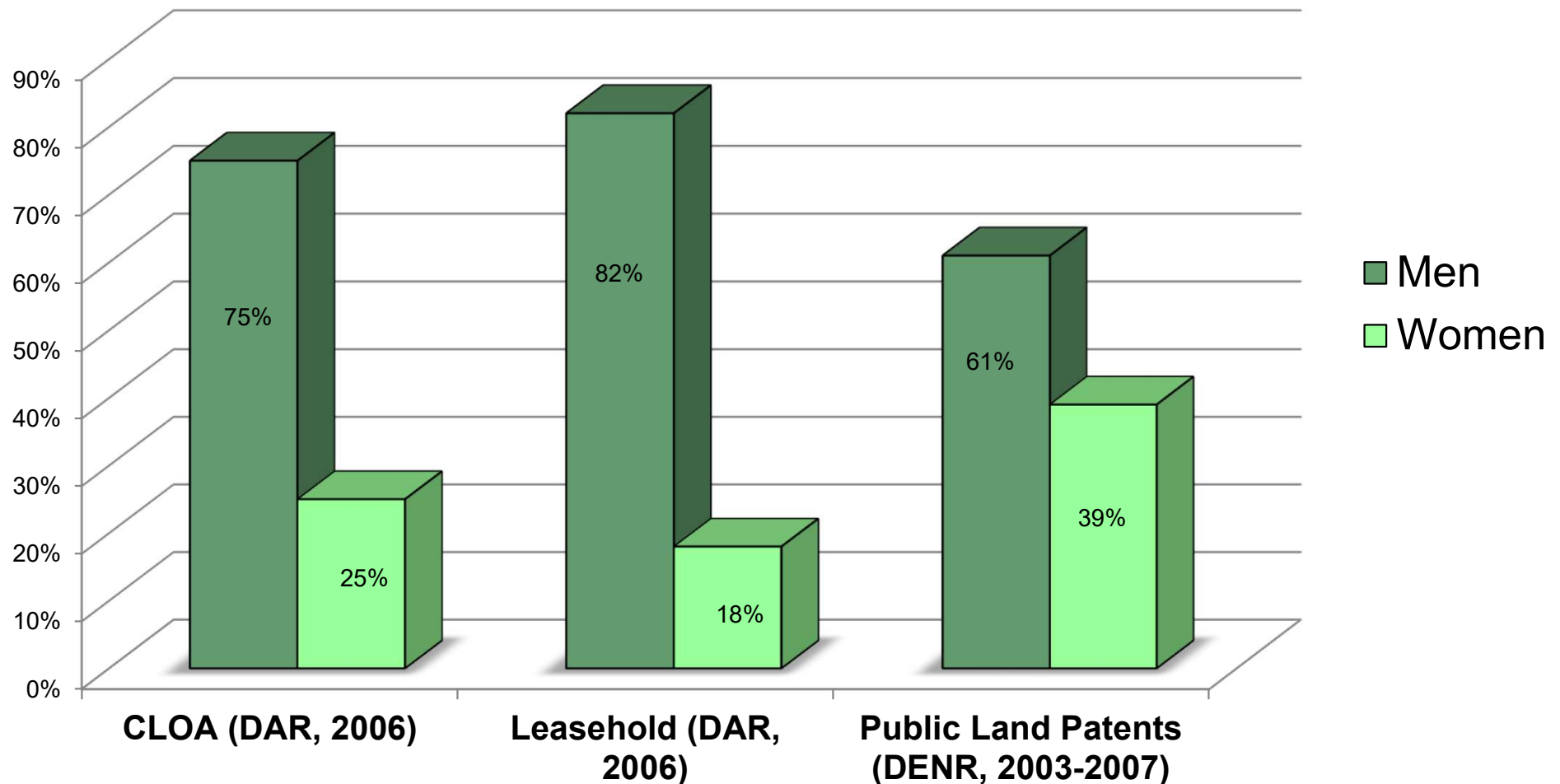
Gender Situation: Lao PDR Land Administration



Land Document Distribution 1997

Source: Gender
Resource Information
and Development
Centre, LWU

Gender Situation: Philippine Land Administration



Gender Situation: Philippine Land Administration

- Land information system is not consolidated and gender-disaggregated.
- Preference for men in land administration positions.



Gender Mainstreaming Strategies: ENGENDER

Embed gender equality principles in project design/plans, policies and operational guidelines; and define the role of each Project work unit in gender mainstreaming.

Network with gender advocates in government and civil society organizations (e.g., Lao Women's Union, DENR GAD Secretariat, etc.)

Gender Mainstreaming Strategies: ENGENDER

Get both women and men involved in project designing, implementation (e.g., survey and adjudication teams), monitoring and evaluation

Ensure the recognition of land rights of both men and women in land titling policies and procedures (e.g., place conjugal properties in the names of spouses, etc.)

Gender Mainstreaming Strategies: ENGENDER

Note project gender-related accomplishments and problems, and regularly include them in monitoring and evaluation reports

Develop gender-disaggregated database (e.g., workforce, participants of training and non-training events, land claimants, land information system, etc.) and studies to monitor and identify gender issues.

Gender Mainstreaming Strategies: ENGENDER

Enhance the capabilities of project management and staff in gender sensitivity and mainstreaming.

Raise the awareness of communities on the equal land rights of women and men.



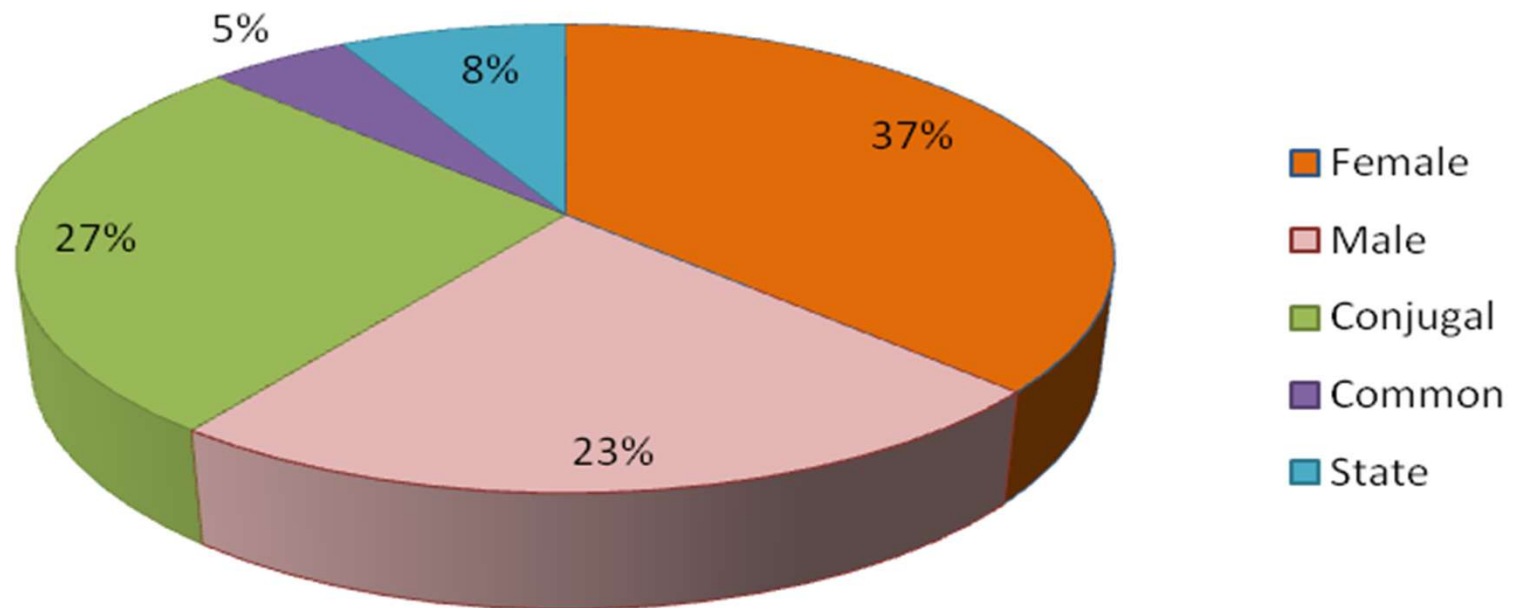
Gains

- Matrilineal (LTP in Lao PDR) or gender balanced distribution (LAMP in the Philippines) of land titles



Gains: Laos

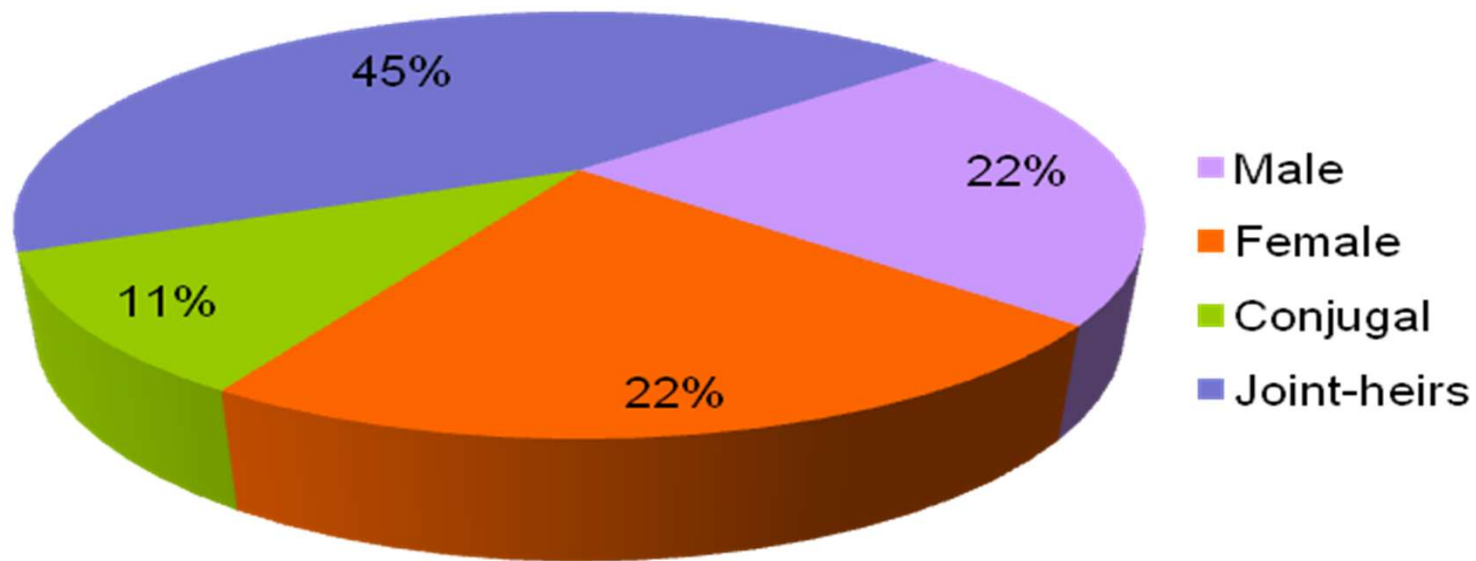
Title by Gender/Type



Lao PDR Land Titling Project

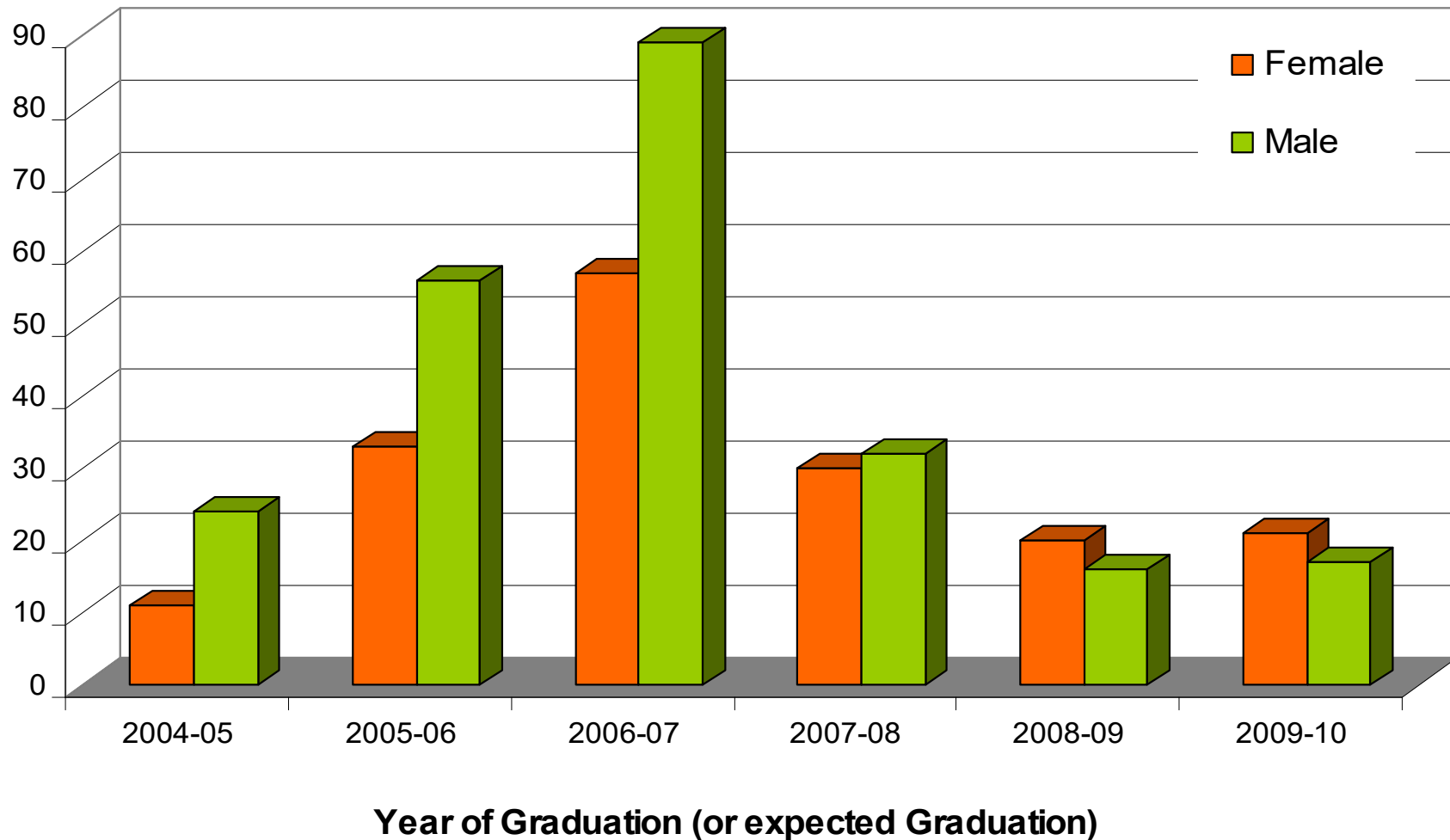
Gains: Philippines

Title by Gender/Type



Philippines Land Administration and Management Project

Graduating Higher Diploma Students (Polytechnic College in Laos) Land Survey and Land Administration Course



Gains

- In Lao PDR, as a legacy from the Land Titling Project, there are more than 100 women across the nation in positions of community leadership who are fully trained in land rights education and the process for land registration.

Gains

- Employment figures within the agency stakeholders of the Land Titling Project show that women now make up approximately 32% of the workforce. However, this drops significantly when looking at figures for the systematic adjudication team, where only 22% of those employed on the teams are women.

Gains

- In the Philippines, as of December 2008, the Project staff complement is 493. Of this total number, 55% were males and 45% were females, which is within the desired 60-40 to 50-50 gender distribution ratio.

Gains

In the Philippines, LAMP has developed:

- Land Administration and Management System which includes gender-disaggregated data on land title holders,
- Real Estates Sales Analysis System for local government units, which enables a local government unit to monitor the number of males and females who sold and bought real properties at a certain period in time.

Conclusions: Lessons

- **G**ender should be explicit in all project guidelines and processes. A Social Development and Gender Framework helps make project proactively address gender concerns.
- **R**ecognising and nurturing partnerships with stakeholders is an effective strategy for gaining support.
- **E**nhancement of commitment and capabilities of project management and staff in gender mainstreaming are important.
- **A**nalysis of gender issues is possible only with gender-disaggregated database.
- **T**ransformation begins when women and men become aware of the equality of their land rights.

Thank you!

