



CALL FOR ABSTRACTS AND PROPOSALS FOR OTHER FORMS OF PARTICIPATIONS

2014 CONFERENCE ON LAND POLICY IN AFRICA

***The next decade of land policy in Africa: ensuring
agricultural development and inclusive growth***

**11-14 November 2014
ACCRA, GHANA**



African Union



African Development Bank



United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa



LAND POLICY INITIATIVE

Background

The Land Policy Initiative (LPI) is a joint initiative of the African Union Commission, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, and the African Development Bank. The LPI proposes to host a biennial Conference on Land Policy in Africa, which will be a policy and learning event. Its goal will be to deepen capacity for land policy in Africa through improved access to knowledge and information on land policymaking and implementation. The inaugural Conference will be co-hosted by the LPI and the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) from 11 to 14 November 2014, in Accra, Ghana.

The Conference is intended to have a catalytic effect in creating a forum for presenting research activities, and focusing the attention of a comprehensive range of stakeholders on the issues and status of land policy in Africa. Conference participants will therefore include governments, parliamentarians, farmers, researchers, civil society, private sector, land practitioners (surveyors, mapping companies, administrators), and donors. The Conference will also provide a platform for showcasing emerging and promising practices, and facilitating networking among land experts and land professionals in Africa.

The inaugural Conference of November 2014 will be held under the theme: “*The next decade of land policy in Africa: ensuring agricultural development and inclusive growth.*” This theme was selected in support of the declaration of 2014 by the African Union as the “Year of Agriculture and Food Security in Africa”. The format of the Conference will include plenary and parallel sessions, side events, exhibitions, and the use of social media in order to reach a broader audience, including youth.

The organizers of the Conference now invite the submission of abstracts of papers, and of other forms of participation in the Conference. Abstracts can be submitted under particular categories and sub-themes as follows:

Categories:

- Conference papers
- Posters
- Exhibitions
- Side events

Sub-themes:

- Inclusive agricultural growth (agricultural investment, productivity experiences securing land rights in the context of large scale investments)
- Land governance frameworks – experiences in implementing frameworks and coherence at country level (specific land governance frameworks, implications for land management and land rights)
- Women’s land rights – impact of land reforms and addressing persisting policy bottlenecks
- Securing land rights under different tenure regimes
- Experiences and emerging best practices in developing and implementing land policies (rural and urban)
- Land administration

Abstracts should incorporate the following transcending considerations:

- Youth
- Water
- Gender

Abstracts of no more than 350 words and any requests for further information should be submitted to africalandconference@uneca.org, by 9 August 2014. Abstracts may be submitted in English or French.

Further information

Why should you consider submitting an abstract

The Land Policy Conference will be the premier land policy event in Africa. The platform will provide presenters with an opportunity to:

- Share and showcase research findings or good practices with leading land experts and practitioners in Africa and beyond
- Deepen knowledge on key aspects of land policy development and implementation
- Develop or deepen land related networks at personal and institutional levels
- Contribute to solidarity for improved land governance in Africa

How abstracts will be selected

The organizers envisage a tremendous level of interest in the Conference, and that more abstracts will be received than can be accommodated. The selection of papers, posters, and exhibitions for presentation at the Conference will therefore be conducted by a Scientific Committee appointed by the LPI. The Committee consists of highly respected land policy experts. Selection of abstracts will be in accordance with the following process:

1. Initial Selection

The Scientific Committee will shortlist and select abstracts based on the following criteria:

- Quality of content
- Originality and innovation
- Compliance with identified Conference themes
- Preference will be for African and African-based authors/presenters
- Geographic coverage

Conditional acceptance of selected abstracts and invitations for extended submissions by a stated deadline will be issued. All correspondence will be conducted by e-mail.

2. Final selection

Based on extended submissions, final selections will be made by the Scientific Committee.

The Scientific Committee cannot guarantee that the presentation type of choice will be granted to authors/presenters. The decision of the Scientific Committee is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

General Information

- Authors who submit abstracts are not automatically registered for the November 2014 Conference on Land Policy. In order to participate and present authors must

register for the Conference in the manner and by the dates detailed by organizers of the Conference.

- There is no fee required to submit an abstract.
- All submitting authors/presenters will be required to confirm the following:
 - ✓ Agreement to the organizers' terms and conditions.
 - ✓ Intent to present the product at the November 2014 Conference on Land Policy in person or by a listed co-author
- Authors/presenters wishing to withdraw their abstracts are requested to do so by the dates specified by organizers of the Conference.

Publication of Conference papers

The Scientific Committee will select some papers from those presented at the Conference for publication in selected journals as may be arranged by the organizers of the Conference. The Scientific Committee will provide authors of selected papers with recommendations on how selected papers may be refined.