

Improving Land Programming in the Great Lakes Region of Africa

Introduction

The following recommendations resulted from an expert meeting hosted by the **Knowledge Platform Security & Rule of Law** and **Search for Common Ground**, held on **15 June 2017** in The Hague. The recommendations, prioritized by the experts present at the meeting, aim to guide upcoming policies and programming in support of the prevention and peaceful resolution of land conflict in the Great Lakes Region of Africa.

Recommendations

1. Back up mediation and land registration programs with institutional development and legal enforcement. Encourage enforcement by legally validating mediation and last registration outcomes through formal institutions.
2. Make use of new technologies to enhance documentation, collection, monitoring and dissemination of lessons learned.
3. Refrain from land tenure registration unless there is:
 - i. Functioning dispute resolution mechanisms
 - ii. Government capacity and buy-in
 - iii. Citizen awareness and buy-in
4. Ensure gender balance in all land governance efforts. Specifically, consider and research the possibility to engage women as active mediators in order to increase the involvement of women in land affairs.
5. Encourage donors to be courageous in continuing to support mediation through long-term engagement.
6. Conduct extensive risk analysis to avoid or to be equipped to deal with (re)emerging land conflicts and disputes resulting from programming.