



Consortium on
Gender, Security & Human Rights

Land Grabbing, Large-Scale Land Acquisition and Gender

Bibliography with Abstracts

2020

The **Consortium on Gender, Security and Human Rights** created this bibliography to provide a guide to the landscape of research-based knowledge on land grabbing, large-scale land acquisition, and gender. Our goal is to provide the policy, activist and scholarly communities with improved access to the findings of academic research, as well as to a curated selection of the extensive and valuable resources produced by international organizations and NGOs.

The Consortium on Gender, Security and Human Rights Bibliographic Resources Series

<http://genderandsecurity.org/projects-resources/bibliographic-resources>

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Sexual Violence and Armed Conflict

Taxation, Tax Justice and Gender Equality

Please check the website for new bibliographic resources posted since this one was published.

This bibliography aims to provide a guide to the landscape of research on land grabbing, large-scale land acquisition (LSLA) and gender. This bibliography is primarily comprised of academic literature but includes a non-comprehensive selection of non-academic resources, such as research from international organizations and NGOs.

Though “land grabbing” and “large-scale land acquisition” are terms that are used to refer to largely the same phenomenon, “large-scale land acquisition” is the term more frequently used in academic scholarship on the topic, while NGOs and activists critiquing this phenomenon more often use “land grabbing.” In the compilation of this bibliography, the Consortium used a guiding definition of land grabbing as: “...the control (whether through ownership, lease, concession, contracts, quotas, or general power) of larger than locally-typical amounts of land by any person or entity (public or private, foreign or domestic) via any means (‘legal’ or ‘illegal’) for purposes of speculation, extraction, resource control or commodification at the expense of peasant farmers, agroecology, land stewardship, food sovereignty and human rights” (Eco Ruralis 2016).

Bringing a feminist lens to this topic, this bibliography not only compiles literature on gendered vulnerabilities to land grabbing and LSLA, including women’s insecure land tenure, whether customary or statutory (*also addressed in the Consortium’s “Land Tenure and Gender” bibliography*); it also addresses gendered implications of land grabs, including inequalities in labor, leadership and compensation. This bibliography draws a distinction between the broader questions of land rights (*for resources on land rights, see the Consortium’s “Land Rights and Gender” bibliography*) and those of land grabbing and LSLA, underscoring how the systems and institutions that benefit from such control rely on distinctly gendered distributions of power.

Consortium interns Ashley Achee, Kirsten Albers, Eliza Berg, Issraa Faiz, Amanda Leonard, Marisa Nguyen, Angela Pavao, Beatrice Sell, Mia Stone-Molloy and Andrea Van Grinsven undertook the principal research for this bibliography, with additional contributions from Consortium staff members. Entries include citations and, insofar as possible, abstracts or summaries. If you are familiar with resources that you think should be included in the next draft of this bibliography and/or in the Consortium's Research Hub, please send us the citation, and, if possible, the PDF. Resources can be submitted through our website at: <http://genderandsecurity.org/projects-resources/bibliographic-resources>.

This bibliography was created by the Consortium on Gender, Security and Human Rights, as part of our Feminist Roadmap for Sustainable Peace and Planet (FRSPP) project. The FRSPP focuses on the transnational economic actors and processes that tend to deepen the inequalities that underlie armed conflicts and to undermine the prospects for peace that is both politically and environmentally sustainable. Its goal is to provide: forward-looking expert knowledge of those processes; analyses of their impacts on gender relations and other structural inequalities underlying armed conflicts; and recommendations for how to engage and modify those processes to be more supportive of the societal transformations critical to building gender-equitable, sustainable peace. Topics addressed in the FRSPP include, inter alia: the economic recovery policy prescriptions of international financial institutions; extractive industries and natural resource policy; land rights, large scale land acquisition and land grabbing; infrastructure reconstruction; and climate disruption.

Agbley, Gideon Kofi. 2019. "Land Grabbing and the Gendered Livelihood Experience of Smallholder Farmers in Northern Ghana: Through a Human Development and Capability Lens." *Ghana Journal of Development Studies* 16 (1): 155.

Abstract:

The phenomenon of land grabbing in developing countries has led to worsening livelihood choices for smallholder farmers who depended on communal lands for subsistence. While previous analyses of land grabs were framed in a paradigm that emphasised outcomes, this study is framed within a human development approach which places emphasis on both outcomes and procedural concerns. The procedural concerns are in relation to representation prior to and during negotiations for land acquisitions. The study is based on analysis of in-depth interviews and focus group discussions to assess BioFuel Africa Limited's investments in two communities in northern Ghana. Results show the company is no longer operating its jatropha (*jatropha curcas*) plantation and therefore the inability to provide jobs promised. Meanwhile the clearing of large contiguous tracts of lands have had devastating impacts on the livelihoods of women and men. The study revealed that there was poor participation of women in all stages and processes of the land acquisitions for the project, and that the land acquirer had failed to fully implement the procedural concerns of equity, efficiency, participation and sustainability in the acquisitions of lands for the project. It is recommended that large-scale land deals should be conditioned on proper disposal and utilization of lands within specified time frames, failure for which land is reverted to original use. (*Abstract from original source*)

Archambault, Caroline, and Annelies Zoomers, eds. 2015. *Global Trends in Land Tenure Reform: Gender Impacts*. London and New York: Routledge.

No abstract available.

Summary:

This book explores the gendered dimensions of recent land governance transformations across the globe in the wake of unprecedented pressures on land and natural resources. These complex contemporary forces are reconfiguring livelihoods and impacting women's positions, their tenure security and well-being, and that of their families.

Bringing together fourteen empirical community case studies from around the world, the book examines governance transformations of land and land-based resources resulting from four major processes of tenure change: commercial land based investments, the formalization of customary tenure, the privatization of communal lands, and post-conflict resettlement and redistribution reforms. Each contribution carefully analyses the gendered dimensions of these transformations, exploring both the gender impact of the land tenure reforms and the social and political economy within which these reforms materialize. The cases provide important insights for decision makers to better promote

and design an effective gender lens into land tenure reforms and natural resource management policies. (*Summary from Routledge*)

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1. Gender, Land and Agricultural Investments in Lao PDR – Clara Mi Young Park and Elizabeth Daley
2. Women and Benefit-sharing in Large-scale Land Deals: A Mining Case Study from Papua New Guinea – Nicholas Menzies and Georgia Harley
3. A Women’s World or the Return of Men? The Gendered Impacts of Residential Tourism in Costa Rica – Femke Van Noorloos
4. Cameroon’s Community Forests Program and Women’s Income Generation from Non-timber Forest Products: Negative Impacts and Potential Solutions – Marguerite Belobo Belibi, Judith Van Eijnatten and Nicholas Barber
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10. Women’s Forestland Rights in the Collective Forestland Reforms in China: Fieldwork Findings and Policy Recommendations – Xiaobei Wang, Elisa Scalise, and Renee Giovarelli
11. Gendered Perspectives on Rangeland Privatization among the Maasai of Southern Kenya – Caroline S. Armchambault
12. Reproducing Patriarchy on Resettled Lands: A Lost Opportunity in Reconstituting Women’s Land Rights in the Fast-Track Land Reform Program in Zimbabwe – Manase Kudzai Chiweshe
13. Resigning their Rights? Impediments to Women’s Property Ownership in Kosovo – Sandra F. Joireman
14. Strengthening Women’s Land Rights While Recognizing Customary Tenure in Northern Uganda – Leslie Hannay and Elisa Scalise

Behrman, Julia, Ruth Meinzen-Dick, and Agnes Quisumbing. 2012. “The Gender Implications of Large-Scale Land Deals.” *The Journal of Peasant Studies* 39 (1): 49-79.

Abstract:

This article introduces a discussion of gender dimensions into the growing debate on large-scale land deals. It addresses the current information gap on the differential gender effects of large-scale land deals through (1) an overview of the phases of large-scale land

deals and discussion of related effects on rural men and women based on new literature on large-scale land deals and past literature on the gender effects of commercialization and contract farming; (2) a presentation of further evidence using several case studies on the gender effects of large-scale deals; and (3) a conclusion that looks at knowledge gaps and areas for further research as well as broad recommendations for gender equitable large-scale land deals. (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: gender; large-scale land deals; land tenure reform

Bernal, Victoria. 1988. “Losing Ground—Women and Agriculture on Sudan’s Irrigated Schemes: Lessons from a Blue Nile Village.” In *Agriculture, Women and Land—The African Experience*, edited by Jean Davison, 131-56. Boulder, CO: Westview Press.

Abstract:

Jean Davison has identified central questions concerning women and agriculture in Africa—focusing on changes in women’s access to resources and participation in production brought by the penetration of capitalism during the colonial period and later by the policies of African governments. This chapter explores the issues in assessing the consequences of irrigated schemes for Muslim women in northern Sudan. The legal grounds recognized by the Gezira administration for a tenant to delegate a manager include old age and cases where the tenant is a woman. Women also farm along the Blue Nile east of Rufa’a and in Blue Nile communities off-scheme near the Ethiopian border. In 1954 an irrigated scheme was established at Wad al Abbas by two Sudanese merchants from outside the community, under license from the British colonial government. It was later nationalized by the Sudanese government in 1969 and is administered by the parastatal Blue Nile Agricultural Corporation. (*Abstract from Taylor and Francis*)

Brain, James L. 1976. “Less Than Second-Class: Women in Rural Settlement Schemes in Tanzania.” In *Women in Africa: Studies in Social and Economic Change*, edited by Nancy Hafkin and Edna Bay, 265-82. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

No abstract available.

Brondo, Keri Vacanti. 2013. *Land Grab: Green Neoliberalism, Gender, and Garifuna Resistance in Honduras*. Tucson: University of Arizona Press.

No abstract available.

Summary:

This is a rich ethnographic account of the relationship between identity politics, neoliberal development policy, and rights to resource management in native communities on the north coast of Honduras. It also answers the question: can freedom be achieved under the structures of neoliberalism? (*Summary from WorldCat*)

Capraro, Chiara, and Jessica Woodroffe. 2018. "Digging Deep: The Impact of Uganda's Land Rush on Women's Rights." London: Womankind Worldwide.

No abstract available.

Summary:

"In this report, we aim to demonstrate the impact of land acquisition on women's rights, as well as explore how the deeply entrenched unequal gender relations and discriminatory social norms – present in Uganda as in every other country in the world – result in significant gaps in Ugandan land laws (see Section 3 for a discussion on land and law).

"In Section 2 we share the feminist participatory action research (FPAR) methodology used in this project. Section 3 considers Uganda's complex land laws, and the way in which discriminatory norms prevent women from obtaining justice. Section 4 highlights the impact of the land rush on women in five districts of Uganda, urging us to learn from the testimonies of the rural women most affected. To protect these women's identities, we have used pseudonyms in lieu of their real names.

"In Section 5, we demonstrate how economic strategies around investment and the commodification of natural resources interact with discriminatory norms to further disadvantage women. Section 6 shows the collective resistance of women's movements to abuses of land rights. Finally Section 7 draws conclusions, and Section 8 offers recommendations to governments, the international community and corporate actors working in Uganda" (Capraro and Woodroffe 2018, 4).

Chu, Jessica. 2011. "Gender and 'Land Grabbing' in Sub-Saharan Africa: Women's Land Rights and Customary Land Tenure." *Development* 54 (1): 35–9.

Abstract:

Jessica Chu seeks to enquire into the understanding of gender impacts with the new proliferation of cross-border, large-scale land transactions or global 'land grabs'. There has been a lack of discussion of gender in considering land grabs, most notably in the World Bank's recent report and in the various proposed guidelines. However, by not having addressed the current debates on women's land rights, particularly in regard to the return of customary law, current proposed solutions will fail to address the gender inequalities propagated by the land grabs. (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: women's land rights; customary law; 'land grabs'; the World Bank; gender relations

Chung, Youjin B. 2020a. "Governing a Liminal Land Deal: The Biopolitics and Necropolitics of Gender." *Antipode* 52 (3): 722–41.

Abstract:

Over the past decade, there has been a surge in large-scale land acquisitions around the world. Yet, increasing evidence suggests that many of the prominent land deals signed during the global land rush are struggling to materialise. This emergent pattern of liminality has important implications for understanding the everyday, contingent, and gendered processes of land deal governance and subject formation. Drawing on ethnographic research, this article examines the gendered governance of a “liminal” land deal in coastal Tanzania, through a case of the EcoEnergy Sugar Project. It shows how the project’s prolonged delay has given rise, over time, to two contradistinctive sets of actors and mechanisms of control: biopolitical interventions of international development consultants focused on livelihood improvements, and necro political interventions of district paramilitary forces focused on surveillance and violence. While seemingly contradictory, I argue that both enactments of power fundamentally relied on and reproduced normative gender in rural Tanzania. (*Abstract from original source*)
Keywords: land grab; biopolitics; necropolitics; gender; development; Tanzania

Chung, Youjin B. 2020b. “Gender and Land Grabbing.” In *Routledge Handbook of Gender and Agriculture*, edited by Carolyn E. Sachs, Leif Jensen, Paige Castellanos, and Kathleen Sexsmith. Abingdon, VA: Routledge.

Summary:

“In the Wake of the food, fuel, and financial crises of 2007/2007, there has been a surge in large-scale land acquisitions in the Global South. Actors behind this so-called “global land grab” have been diverse, including private investors, national governments, as well as institutional investors, such as hedge funds, pension funds, and sovereign wealth funds with interests in producing and/or speculating on agricultural commodities (Fairbairn, 2020; Anseeuw et al., 2012; GRAIN, 2008)” (Chung 2020).

“...feminist scholars and activists began raising concerns about the lack of discussion on gender, or the “overwhelming gender-blindness” in the literature (Chu, 2011; Palmer 2010, cited in Daley, 2011; Behrman et al., 2011)” (Chung 2020).

“This chapter provides an overview of recent work in this field by examining five thematic issues on gender and land grabbing emerging from feminist political ecology, critical agrarian studies, feminist economics, rural sociology, and related fields. The themes discussed include 1) consultation and negotiation; 2) access to land and livelihoods; 3) compensation and resettlement; 4) labor relations; and 5) political reactions from below and above. This chapter concludes with an invitation for the continued feminist inquiry into these interconnected issues while opening up new questions and concerns for consideration” (Chung 2020).

Collins, Andrea M. 2014. "Governing the Global Land Grab: What Role for Gender in the Voluntary Guidelines and the Principles for Responsible Investment?" *Globalizations* 11 (2): 189-203.

Abstract:

The heightened interest in large-scale foreign agricultural investment in regions with ‘unused’ arable land has triggered a great deal of international attention. Concerns about ‘land grabbing’ have initiated efforts at the global level to establish standards for ‘responsible investment’ and good governance. These initiatives warrant critical examination given the social, political, and economic inequalities to which they are designed to respond, yet the scholarship on these initiatives frequently fails to incorporate gendered analyses. This article argues that gendered analysis of the governance of land grabs not only belongs at the local level—where it continues to yield important insights into how gender inequality is manifested in various forms of local governance—but that it is sorely needed at the global level as well. As such, this article begins an assessment of these governance frameworks and how they consider local realities, with particular attention to gender-based inequalities. (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: gender; global governance; land grabbing; large-scale land acquisitions; voluntary guidelines; agricultural investment

Collins, Andrea M. 2019. “Financialization, Resistance, and the Question of Women’s Land Rights.” *International Feminist Journal of Politics* 21 (3): 454–74.

Abstract:

The financialization of food and agricultural land has been a critical driver of the “land-grabbing” phenomenon in the post 2007–2008 period: the potential for land to be both a productive and financial asset has driven interest in long-term land rentals and sales. Scholars and activists have highlighted the negative effects of these trends for rural populations. International institutions have promoted the recognition of land rights as a means to secure land from seizure, ensure equal participation in land acquisitions, and enable low-income populations, including women, to access credit. At the same time, activists are promoting collective land rights, customary modes of land tenure and the rights of Indigenous peoples. For activists, land reform models that promote the collective rights of peoples to govern land are critical to resisting individualized land ownership models that encourage the alienation of land. This article reviews these rights-based frameworks using a critical feminist perspective and argues that both the institutionalist and activist approaches require more nuanced understandings of gender and difference in order to effect gender-equitable change. This article concludes by mapping new feminist research directions that consider land and resources within the context of local–global processes, the global economy, intersectionality and global rights-based discourses. (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: land governance; gender; food sovereignty; collective rights; international institutions

Daley, Elizabeth. 2011. *Gendered Impacts of Commercial Pressures on Land*. Rome: International Land Coalition.

Abstract:

This paper contains a careful and focused analysis of the gendered impacts of commercial pressures on land (CPL), and especially their impacts on women. It is based on a review of the literature on CPL to date and an analysis from a gender perspective of International Land Coalition country case studies carried out in India, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Ethiopia, Zambia, Rwanda and Benin. Arguing that women are both likely to be affected differently from men by large-scale land deals and disproportionately more likely to be negatively affected than men because they are generally vulnerable as a group, the paper provides recommendations as to how tools and procedures envisaged by proposed regulatory frameworks must be locally appropriate and must specifically address all four aspects of women's vulnerability with respect to CPL: productive resources, participation in decision-making, relative income poverty and physical vulnerability. (*Abstract from International Land Coalition*)

Daley, Elizabeth, and Birgit Englert, eds. 2008. *Women's Land Rights & Privatization in Eastern Africa*. Oxford, UK: James Currey.

No abstract available.

Summary:

This volume focuses on the impact on women's land rights from the contemporary drive towards the formulation and implementation of land tenure reforms which aim primarily at the private registration of land. It is solidly grounded in the findings from seven case studies, all based on in-depth qualitative research, from various regions of Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda. The detailed, local level research in this volume not only challenges the status quo, but demonstrates that another world is possible and documents the many ways women in Eastern Africa are finding to ensure their rights to land. Birgit Englert is Assistant Professor in the Department of African Studies at the University of Vienna, Austria; Elizabeth Daley is an independent land consultant. (*Summary from book description*)

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1. Breathing Life into Dead: Theories about Property Rights in Rural Africa Lessons from Kenya – Celestine Nyamu-Musembi
2. 'Go Home & Clear the Conflict': Human Rights Perspectives On Gender & Land In Tanzania – Ingunn Ikdahl
3. Gender, Uenyaji, Wealth, Confidence & Land in Kinyanambo: The Impact of Commoditization, Rural–Urban Change & Land Registration in Mufundi District, Tanzania – Elizabeth Daley
4. Changing Land Rights & Gendered Discourses: Examples from the Uluguru Mountains Tanzania – Birgit Englert
5. Falling Between Two Stools: How Women's Land Rights Are Lost Between State & Customary Law in Apac District, Northern Uganda – Judy Adoko And Simon Levine
6. Struggling with In-Laws & Corruption in Kombewa Division, Kenya: The Impact of HIV/AIDS On Widows' & Orphans' Land Rights – Samwel Ong'wen Okuro

7. Women & Land Arrangements in Rwanda: A Gender-Based Analysis of Access To Natural Resources – An Ansoms And Nathalie Holvoet

Daley, Elizabeth, and Clara Mi Young Park. 2012. *The Gender and Equity Implications of Land-Related Investments on Land Access and Labour and Income-Generating Opportunities: A Case Study of Selected Agricultural Investments in Northern Tanzania*. Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

No abstract available.

Summary:

This study investigates the gender dimensions of the socioeconomic outcomes of selected agricultural investments in Northern Tanzania. The report draws on a review of the literature and on field research conducted in 2011. Fieldwork mainly involved stakeholder interviews and focus groups discussions with investors, local farmers, outgrowers and wage workers involved with two private-sector companies – in horticulture and jatropha – and with group-based producer schemes organized with the assistance of a member-based organization. The study's findings indicate clearly that land-related agricultural investments do have gender-differentiated implications for labour and income generation opportunities for rural women and men, and for their access, use and control of land. This means that the governments and international organizations that are encouraging investments in agriculture need to specifically address gender and social equity concerns, and not just concerns of agricultural and economic growth and productivity. The study identifies some good practices from a gender and equity perspective in the businesses examined and suggests some policy recommendations. (*Summary from the Land Portal*)

Daley, Elizabeth, Martha Osorio, and Clara Mi Young Park. 2013. *The Gender and Equity Implications of Land-Related Investments on Land Access and Labour and Income-Generating Opportunities: A Case Study of Selected Agricultural Investments in LAO PDR*. Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

No abstract available.

Summary:

“The FAO work programme has a number of complementary components, including a series of case studies in countries where private foreign investments are already operational. The present report, on agricultural investments in the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), is the second in this series of case studies. It is based primarily on a period of four weeks fieldwork in Laos in November 2011, in which interviews were held with over 68 key informants and with some 114 people (51 women and 63 men) who were consulted in 17 focus group discussions with local farmers and agricultural workers. The fieldwork was carried out in three of Lao PDR's 17 provinces – Borikhamxai, Vientiane and Vientiane Capital – with the active support and facilitation

of the FAO Country Office and the Government of Lao PDR. Six companies covering a wide range of business models and crops were selected. Among those, there is a tobacco producer. Given the existing conflict of interest between the tobacco industry and public health and recognizing FAO's role, as part of the United Nations Ad Hoc Interagency Task Force on Tobacco Control, in promoting economically viable and sustainable alternatives for tobacco workers and growers, this report does not support nor endorse the tobacco value chain.

“This report is organized as follows. Chapter 2 provides a brief background to the issues globally and describes the methodology. Chapter 3 comprises the main body of the case study, drawing on information gathered in the key informant interviews and focus group discussions, as well as on relevant secondary materials. It situates the case in Laos and explores the policy context and key gender and governance issues around land-related agricultural investments. It also presents from the fieldwork some primary data on agricultural investments and examples of good practices from companies and for an enabling environment for smallholders. Chapter 4 then ends the report with overall conclusions and policy recommendations for land-related investments in agriculture in Laos” (Daley, Osorio, and Park 2013, 3).

Daley, Elizabeth, and Sabine Pallas. 2014. “Women and Land Deals in Africa and Asia: Weighing the Implications and Changing the Game.” *Feminist Economics* 20 (1): 178–201.

Abstract:

Large-scale land deals have attracted much attention from media and policymakers, and several international initiatives are attempting to regulate and address the impacts of such deals. Little attention has been paid to the gendered implications of such deals in the literature, and most regulatory initiatives do not address gender adequately. To fill this gap, this contribution identifies implications of land deals for women and recommends measures to mitigate negative impacts. It reviews evidence from four case studies commissioned for the International Land Coalition (ILC) Global Study of Commercial Pressures on Land conducted in 2010. The evidence is analyzed within a framework that posits women's vulnerability to land deals as due to four dimensions of underlying discrimination. This study analyzes three of these dimensions in depth, arguing that women are likely to be affected differently by land deals and disproportionately more likely to be negatively affected than men. (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: women; land; rural economic development; gender

Darkwah, Akosua K., Peace A. Medie, and Maame Gyekye-Jandoh. 2017. “Interrogating Large Scale Land Acquisition and Its Implication on Women in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Case Study of Ghana.” Working Paper No. 401, The Consortium on Gender, Security and Human Rights, Boston, MA.

Abstract:

Large scale land acquisitions have become increasingly common across Africa. This paper draws on two case studies of large scale land acquisitions in Ghana to examine how the practice affects communities in general, and women in particular. It explains that while there have been some benefits of these acquisitions, the costs to communities mostly outweigh the benefits. Women are particularly impacted by this practice as their livelihoods are affected and they are excluded from the proceeds of land transactions. The paper concludes with a discussion of the actions that state agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and communities have taken to address the negative impact of large scale land acquisition on women and their communities. (*Abstract from original source*)

Doss, Cheryl, Ruth Meinzen-Dick, and Allan Bomuhangi. 2014. “Who Owns the Land? Perspectives from Rural Ugandans and Implications for Large-Scale Land Acquisitions.” *Feminist Economics* 20 (1): 76–100.

Abstract:

Rapidly growing demand for agricultural land is putting pressure on property rights systems, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa, where customary tenure systems have provided secure land access. Rapid and large-scale demands from outsiders are challenging patterns of gradual, endogenous change toward formalization. Little attention has focused on the gender dimensions of this transformation. However this contribution, based on a 2008–09 study of land tenure in Uganda, analyzes how different definitions of land ownership – including household reports, existence of ownership documents, and rights over the land – provide very different indications of the gendered patterns of land ownership and rights. While many households report husbands and wives as joint owners of the land, women are less likely to be listed on ownership documents, and have fewer rights. A simplistic focus on “title” to land misses much of the reality regarding land tenure and could have an adverse impact on women’s land rights. (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: gender; land acquisition; land ownership; land tenure; tenure security; Uganda

Doss, Cheryl, Gale Summerfield, and Dzodzi Tsikata. 2014. “Land, Gender, and Food Security.” *Feminist Economics* 20 (1): 1–23.

Abstract:

Since 2008, a surge in large-scale land acquisitions, or land grabs, has been taking place in low- and middle-income countries around the globe. This contribution examines the gendered effects of and responses to these deals, drawing on nine studies, which include conceptual framing essays that bring in debates about human rights, studies that draw on previous waves of land acquisitions globally, and case studies that examine the gendered dimensions of land dispossession and loss of common property. Three key insights emerge: the evolving gender and land tenure literature provides valuable information for understanding the likely effects of land deals; some of the land deal issues transcend gender-equity concerns and relate to broader problems of dispossession and loss of

livelihoods; and huge gaps remain in our knowledge of gender and land rights that require urgent attention and systematic integration of gender analysis into mainstream research. (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: gender; land rights; land acquisitions; food security; land grabs

Elmhirst, Rebecca, Bimbika Sijapati Basnett, Mia Siscawati, and Dian Ekowati. 2017.
Gender Issues in Large Scale Land Acquisition: Insights from Oil Palm in Indonesia.
Washington, DC: Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI).

No abstract available.

Summary:

The oil palm boom in Indonesia continues to be a major driver of land acquisitions in remaining tropical forest frontiers, drawing on a wide range of actors into its production, and transforming both rural landscapes and livelihoods in the process. The growing body of research and evidence on the social and economic effects of oil palm expansion does not adequately consider the gender dimensions of the oil palm boom, thereby lacking a balanced view of both women's and men's experiences. This is in spite of the overlapping and distinct ways in which women and men are engaging in the oil palm economy as workers, members of smallholder households and communities risking displacement from the expansion.

This report attempts to rectify these knowledge gaps by considering women's voice and agency in decisions related to palm development, and the gendered distribution of associated benefits and costs from oil palm development. We consider the implications of oil palm expansion on women's access to resources (financial, social and natural), division of labor within the plantations, and in the distribution of care responsibilities. We use an intersectional approach to gender analysis that considers how gender interacts and intersects with a wide range of social relations such as age, ethnicity, religion, class and geography. Rather than pre-assuming that women's interests are necessarily distinct from those of men's, we tease out the ways in which these social relations, in interaction with gender, mediate people's engagement with oil palm. We also examine the effects oil palm investments have on social relations, including gender.

The central questions that the research seeks to answer are:

- What processes of land acquisition for oil palm are taking place and how have different categories of men/women been able to engage with these?
- How does women's and men's access to, use of and value attributed to land change as oil palm replaces other crops and as wage opportunities emerge?
- What kind of employment opportunities have emerged in the oil palm economy, for whom, under what terms and conditions and how do they shift division of labor at the household level?
- What role do governments, cooperatives, and customary institutions play in mediating land acquisitions and the distribution of benefits and costs?

The research is located in three research sites in East and West Kalimantan (Sentabai, Long Ayan and Gunung Sari), where large corporate-driven expansion sits alongside out-grower schemes engaging smallholder farmers, and smaller level investments from in-migrants and local people alike. Taking a case study approach, the research is largely ethnographic and draws on a combination of intrahousehold survey, focus group discussions and in-depth life histories of research participants' experiences in each community.

The following brief outlines the major findings of the research, what these findings reveal with respect to broader problems associated with oil palm expansion, and lessons the study offers for policy reform and advocacy. (*Summary from original source*)

Fonjong, Lotsmart. 2017. "Left Out but Not Backing down: Exploring Women's Voices against Large-Scale Agro-Plantations in Cameroon." *Development in Practice* 27 (8): 1114–25.

Abstract:

This article examines the situation of women around agro-plantations which have taken over their farmlands in the South-West Region of Cameroon through large-scale land acquisitions, and how they have sought popular redress. Based on a survey and focus group discussion among affected women, the findings revealed that women are generally left out of large-scale land acquisition processes. They complained of displacement from their farms and traditional forest resources, which has negative effects on their livelihoods and lifestyles. Despite women's constrained situation, they have risen collectively against marginalisation, failed promises, and injustices through protests and defiance, achieving some successes in their demands for recognition and compensation. (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: gender and diversity; rights; Sub-Saharan Africa

Fonjong, Lotsmart. 2019. "Mainstreaming Gender in the Process of Large-Scale Land Acquisitions for Agro-Investment in Cameroon." In *Natural Resource Endowment and the Fallacy of Development in Cameroon*, 215-42. Oxford: African Books Collective.

No abstract available.

Summary:

"This chapter examines the gender nature of the process of large-scale land acquisitions (LSLAs) and opportunities created by its investments in sub-Sahara Africa. It is based on a primary survey conducted between 2014 and 2015 in some divisions of the Littoral and South West regions. Findings reveal that current legal and cultural contexts of land tenure in Cameroon do not provide an enabling environment for women's effective participation in LSLAs. Some gender-shared opportunities offered by these investments are nonetheless acknowledged but are judged not enough to compensate for the gender

differential losses women suffered because of LSLAs. Thus, land-related investments for “rural development” will miss their mark unless stakeholders recognize and address the spate needs of women and men through properly designed and executed gender-inclusive agro-investments. The chapter advocates for gender mainstreaming in the process of consultation, negotiation and compensation, through the creation and enforcement of national gender inclusive guidelines and frameworks for LSLAs. However, these guidelines and frameworks will only deliver where governments, NGOs and the media see themselves as partners of the same struggle” (Fonjong 2019, 215).

Fonjong, Lotsmart, Irene Sama-Lang, Lawrence Fombe, and Christiana Abonge. 2016. “Land Governance and Women’s Rights in Large-Scale Land Acquisitions in Cameroon.” *Development in Practice* 26 (4): 420–30.

Abstract:

This article identifies and examines the role of actors involved in the process of large-scale land acquisitions in Cameroon. It is based on primary data from interviews conducted among principal actors. Findings reveal that government, chiefs, and to some extent elites, play key roles in formal and informal processes that grant land to investors. However, both processes neglect women and affected communities because there are no mechanisms to hold actors accountable to them, especially to women who depend on land for their livelihood. The article concludes that a legal framework that makes the process transparent and promotes accountability and gender inclusiveness is indispensable.

(Abstract from original source)

Keywords: aid-accountability; gender and diversity; governance and public policy; rights; Sub-Saharan Africa

Gebre-Egziabher, Abraha Kinfe. 2013. “Land Registration and Certification as a Key Strategy for Ensuring Gender Equity, Preventing Land Grabbing and Enhancing Agricultural Productivity: Evidence from Tigray, Ethiopia.” *International Journal of African Renaissance Studies - Multi-, Inter- and Transdisciplinarity* 8 (2): 5-22.

Abstract:

In Ethiopia the land issue has always occupied a central place in various struggles for survival and development. Tigray, Ethiopia had a complex land tenure system which has a long history, which goes back to the Aksumite period. The land tenure of Tigray was modified after the introduction of Christianity to Tigray, Ethiopia in about 320 AD, and subsequent leaders began founding churches and establishing monasteries. Traditionally, every Tigreayan was entitled to a piece of land by virtue of the fact that he/she belongs by birth to a given community (Rsti). However, over the years this seemingly simple system has been complicated by the monarchs of Tigray. Two of the main problems that were associated with the land issues of Tigray during that time mainly during the imperial regime were land grabbing and the gender disparity in land ownership. As a result of the two and other key problems, the Tigreayans grew progressively poorer over the years.

The Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Article 40 (The Right to Property) and Article 35 (Rights of Women), respectively, were aimed at addressing the major problems related to land and gender issues. As a way of implementing the articles given in the Constitution and the policies, the regional government of Tigray used Land Registration and Certification as a strategy. The land registration and certification process conducted in Tigray is a process that is local, simple, done in the language of the people (Tigrigna), transparent and participatory, and has prevented land grabbing and ensured gender equity. This article then discusses how land registration and certification not only prevents land grabbing and ensures gender equity, but also enhances agricultural productivity, by using the evidence from Tigray, Ethiopia. (*Abstract from original source*)

Gmür, Désirée. 2019. “Grabbing the Female Commons: Large-Scale Land Acquisitions for Forest Plantations and Impacts on Gender Relations in Kilolo District, Iringa Region, Tanzania.” In *The Commons in a Glocal World: Global Connections and Local Responses*, edited by Tobias Haller, Thomas Breu, Tine De Moor, Christian Rohr, and Heinzpeter Znoj, 301–17. New York: Routledge.

No abstract available.

Summary:

This chapter focuses on the impacts of the ways in which large-scale land acquisitions consolidate commonly owned land that affects women’s resilience differently than men. It argues that the commons enclosure through large-scale land acquisitions (LSLA) mainly has negative impacts on women, involving increased workloads. The chapter suggests that resilience – in terms of food security – is therefore negatively impacted, creating an imbalance between gender and generation based on the power relation and discusses a new institutionalism (NI) perspective in social anthropology. The NI perspective is about institutional transformations driven by change in the relative price of land due to the LSLA that leads powerful actors to select among a plurality of institutions. In addition, the LSLA also increases wives’ dependency on their husbands as their resource base that gave them certain freedom in action has been reduced, leaving them completely reliant on the husbands’ relatives’ property, which is mostly controlled by elderly men. (*Summary from Bern Open Repository and Information System*)

Gmür, Désirée. 2020. “Not Affected the Same Way: Gendered Outcomes for Commons and Resilience Grabbing by Large-Scale Forest Investors in Tanzania.” *Land* 9 (4): 122.

Abstract:

The topic of large-scale land acquisition (LSLA) has attracted wide interest in the literature and the media. However, there is little work on the gendered institutional changes and gendered impacts on common pool resources (CPR) due to LSLA. The aim of this paper is to address these impacts. This is done by discussing data from participatory research (using the methods of participatory observation, semi-structured

and narrative interviews, biographies, focus group discussions, value chain analysis, and household questionnaires) on a forestry plantation operated by the British investor, the New Forests Company (NFC) in the Kilolo district, in the Iringa region. The institutional arrangements regarding different land-related common pool resources from pre-colonial times until the arrival of this investment will be shown. Furthermore, how these arrangements have changed over time and since the LSLA is presented. Then, the effects on men's and women's access to CPR and, thus, the impacts on their capacities to perform their reproductive work and resilience will be addressed. Furthermore, the paper focuses on how different stakeholders in the land deal (the investor, the government, different local people) make use of these different institutions to push through their own interests regarding the land. Finally, the paper looks at collective compensation payments (such as monetary compensation and jobs) and forms of corporate social responsibility (CSR) schemes, and how they are perceived emically. It is argued that the LSLA in this case clearly grabs land and land-related common pool resources that were previously held in common. Women, such as daughters, sisters, and wives, had specific access and property rights to these. Thus, the paper concludes that this grabbing lowers women's resilience and deprives them of important resources for their livelihoods, and for food and cash production at critical times. CSR programmes and compensation rarely reach women and are, for them, an anti-politics machine, hiding the grabbing processes, and impacting the poorest of the poor, while the company uses a development discourse to legitimise its activities. In fact, the people perceive the investment as trapping them in underdevelopment. (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: large scale land acquisitions; gender; institutions; common pool resources; common property; land tenure transformations; corporate social responsibility; resilience; social anthropology

Hajjar, Reem, Alemayehu N. Ayana, Rebecca Rutt, Omer Hinde, Chuan Liao, Stephanie Keene, Solange Bandiaky-Badji, and Arun Agrawal. 2020. "Capital, Labor, and Gender: The Consequences of Large-Scale Land Transactions on Household Labor Allocation." *The Journal of Peasant Studies* 47 (3): 1–23.

Abstract:

Contemporary large-scale land transactions (LSLTs), also called land grabs, are historically unprecedented in their scale and pace. They have provoked robust scholarly debates, yet studies of their gender-differentiated impacts remain more rare, particularly when it comes to how changes in control over land and resources affect women's labor, and thereby their livelihoods and well-being. Our comparative study of four LSLTs in western Ethiopia finds that the transactions led to substantial land use change, including relocation and decrease in size of smallholder parcels, loss of communally-held grazing lands, and loss of forests. These changes had far-reaching impacts on household labor allocation, the gendered division of labor, and household wellbeing. But their effects on women are both more adverse and more severe, expressed in terms of increased wage labor to make up for lost land and livestock, more time spent gathering firewood and water from increasingly distant locations, and an increased intensity of household responsibilities where male members underwent wage labor migration. These burdens led

to negative psychological, corporal, and material effects on women living in and near transacted areas compared to their situation prior to transactions. This article both responds to the deficit in studies on the impacts of LSLTs on gendered livelihoods, labor relations, and wellbeing outcomes, and lays the groundwork for future research. (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: tenure changes; gendered impacts; agricultural investments; Ethiopia

Hannay, Leslie, David Bledsoe, and Mina Manuchehri. 2016. “Realizing Socially-Responsible Investments in Land from a Gender Perspective: Unpacking ‘Zero Tolerance’ to Identify Barriers and Practical Steps to Achieve Equitable and Sustainable Investments.” Paper prepared for World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty, Washington, DC, March 14-18.

Abstract:

To be socially responsible, land-related investments must ensure that women and men are not harmed, are meaningfully consulted and give consent where their rights are affected, are fairly compensated for lost land and resource rights, and benefit equitably from the investment. Importantly, socially responsible investments should not contribute to “gender gaps” by systematically disenfranchising women or men. Realizing corporate commitments to socially responsible investments requires an understanding of and affirmative steps to address gender differences, yet companies may view addressing women’s issues as a step beyond their core commitments on land. They are not. Understanding the gender dimensions of their commitments to socially responsible land-based investments is a necessary first step for many investors to make good on their commitments. To date, many leading agribusiness companies, notably Cargill, Illovo Sugar, Nestle, PepsiCo, the Coca Cola Company, and Unilever, have made statements or commitments regarding land.

This paper will analyze these companies’ public statements, commitments, and policies on land from a gender perspective in order to demonstrate what gender-sensitive socially responsible investments carried out under these commitments would entail, and to shed light on the challenges and pragmatic implications that such commitments present. This paper will ‘unpack’ these companies’ commitments to socially responsible investments to analyze the challenges and concrete steps that are needed to realize a “zero-tolerance” commitment for both men and women affected by land-related investments in order to ensure that:

- Women are equal beneficiaries of investments in land
- Economic and social practices that disadvantage women are not further entrenched by investments; and
- Women are not worse off as a result of such investments. (*Abstract from original source*)

Hennings, Anne. 2019. "The Dark Underbelly of Land Struggles: The Instrumentalization of Female Activism and Emotional Resistance in Cambodia." *Critical Asian Studies* 51 (1): 103–19.

Abstract:

Facing land grabs and eviction in the name of development, women worldwide increasingly join land rights struggles despite often deeply engrained images of female domesticity and conventional gender norms. Yet, the literature on female agency in the context of land struggles has remained largely underexplored. Based on extensive ethnographic fieldwork, my findings suggest that land rights activism in Cambodia has undergone a gendered re-framing process. Reasoning that women use non-violent means of contestation and are less prone to violence from security personnel, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) push women affected by land grabs and eviction to the frontline of protests. Moreover, female activists are encouraged to publicly display emotions, such as the experienced pain behavior that sharply contrasts with Cambodian norms of feminine modesty. I critically question this women-to-the-front strategy and, drawing on Sara Ahmed's politics of emotions approach, show the adverse risks for female activists. Furthermore, I demonstrate that the instrumentalization of female bodies and emotions in land rights protests perpetuate gender disparities instead of strengthening female agency in the Cambodian society and opening up political space for women. (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: dispossession; land grabbing; gendered eviction; politics of emotion; Cambodia

Izumi, Kaori. 2007. "Gender-Based Violence and Property Grabbing in Africa: A Denial of Women's Liberty and Security." *Gender and Development* 15 (1): 11–23.

Abstract:

Property grabbing is a new form of gendered violence against women, threatening the security of women across Southern and East Africa. Forced evictions are often accompanied by further acts of violence, including physical and mental harassment, and abuse. Widows are particularly vulnerable, partly as a result of weakened customary practice and social safety nets that used to provide support to widowed women and their children, a situation made worse by the HIV and AIDS epidemic. Defending their property has cost some women their lives, while other women have lost their shelter and source of livelihoods, and have become destitute. The harassment and humiliation that often accompany property grabbing further strip women of their self-esteem, affecting their ability to defend their rights. (*Abstract from original source*)

Jacobs, Susie. 1990. "Zimbabwe: State, Class, and Gendered Models of Land Resettlement." In *Women and the State in Africa*, edited by Jane L. Parpart and Kathleen A. Staudt, 161-84. London: Lynne Reinner.

No abstract available.

Jacobs, Susie. 2007. "Women and Land Resettlement in Zimbabwe." *Review of African Political Economy* 10 (27-28): 33-50.

Abstract:

Peasant demand for land is one of the crucial issues determining Zimbabwe's strategy for agrarian transformation. Yet women's demand for land has been ignored. Susie Jacobs traces the development of gender divisions in pre-independence Zimbabwe and argues that current land resettlement models discriminate against women. Policies towards women are limited in scope and reinforce the domestic domain despite women's contribution to Zimbabwe's struggle. If a socialist strategy does not confront gender hierarchy, women's struggles will have to take on a new form. (*Abstract from original source*)

Joshi, Saba. 2020. "Working Wives: Gender, Labour and Land Commercialization in Ratanakiri, Cambodia." *Globalizations* 17 (1): 1–15.

Abstract:

In Ratanakiri province, home to a large share of Cambodia's indigenous minorities, land commercialization involving large-scale land transfers and in-migration has led to shrinking access to land for indigenous households. Drawing on qualitative interviews and a household survey conducted in Ratanakiri, this paper explores the links between social reproduction and agrarian production in the current phase of agrarian transition through the lens of everyday gendered experiences. It argues that while wage labour is becoming an essential component of agrarian livelihoods for land-poor indigenous households, gendered hierarchies mediate access to local wage labour opportunities due to the incompatibilities between care work and paid labour. This paper contributes to the literature by exposing locally-specific processes through which gender-differentiated impacts are produced under multiple modes of dispossession. It also illuminates the links between dispossession and social reproduction and the tensions between capitalist accumulation and care activities in agrarian trajectories following land commercialization. (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: gender; Cambodia; land grabs; care labour; wage labour; indigenous peoples

Kachingwe, Nancy. 2012. *From under Their Feet: A Think Piece on the Gender Dimensions of Land Grabs in Africa*. Johannesburg, South Africa: ActionAid.

Abstract:

This paper was commissioned by ActionAid and serves as a think-piece to build our understanding of the gendered implications of the recent wave of large-scale land acquisitions and investments, particularly in Africa. It aims to provide a basis for further development of policy proposals and recommendations that address the issue from a developmental and gender equality perspective. Understanding the implications for rural

women's land rights and rights to development and a livelihood is essential for the design of meaningful policy demands that tackle negative impacts of large-scale land acquisitions and actually work for women. (*Abstract from original source*)

Kanti Das, Bidhan, and Nabanita Guha. 2016. "How Do Women Respond in the Context of Acquisition of Agricultural Land? A Micro Level Study in Semi-Urban South Bengal, India." *Indian Journal of Human Development* 10 (2): 253-69.

Abstract:

The state's 'eminent domain' provision under colonial Land Acquisition Act, 1894 is the major cause that forcefully dispossesses the peasantry of their major means of production, that is, land. Though it facilitates rapid industrialization, it has a severe impact on affected persons that often leads to socio-economic impoverishment. Despite the existence of a significant number of studies on the relationship and impacts of development-forced displacement and resettlement in general, only a few studies focus on gender issues. Moreover, there is complete absence of studies on the consequences, which women face in the context of acquisition of agricultural land, where the affected persons are not physically relocated. Based on a micro-level field study, it tries to explore what the affected persons, particularly the women, do when the productive assets like agricultural lands have been acquired for private industries. Furthermore, it tries to examine whether there is any impact on the members of neighbouring families, particularly the women, whose lands have not been acquired. Analyzing the village-level data in an industrial zone of South Bengal, India, it is revealed that land acquisition forced the affected women to go outside for earning, thereby enhancing their position in the family in an agrarian environment. This positively affected the neighbouring women and made them engage in income-generating activities, breaking the cultural traditions of non-participation of women in outside work and patriarchal subjugation, prevalent in peasant societies of India. (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: Land acquisition Act 1894; occupational change; utilisation of compensation money; South Bengal

Kiambo, W. 2017. *Gender and Equity Questions in the Policy and Practice of Involuntary Resettlement Due to the Acquisition of Land for Large Scale Economic Investments: A Case Study of Two Resettlement Projects in Maputo Province, Mozambique. Research Report. Maputo, Mozambique: Centro Terra Viva.*

No abstract available.

Summary:

The NGO Centro Terra Viva (CTV) with funding from the World Resources Institute (WRI) implemented a project seeking to promote gender mainstreaming in the policies and practice of large scale land acquisitions (LSLAs) for economic investments. The study was centered on recognizing opportunities to strengthen the role and involvement

of women as actors in decision-making in the resettlement process, particularly given the context of a growing economic and commercial appetite for land acquisition.

This report builds upon work done in 2015 by CTV and WRI on women and land use rights in Mozambique. The 2015 study, Gender equity and community participation in the process of decision-making in the attribution of DUAT, examined the degree to which women are involved in community consultations related to the acquisition (by someone external to the community) of land belonging to a community as well as land use rights. It found that though the constitution of Mozambique apportions equal rights to men and women concerning land use and occupation rights, many in communities remain ignorant of this fact. For this reason women in particular bear the brunt of inequality or exclusion where land rights (and attendant benefits) are concerned. The procedures around community consultations were found to lack preparation of the community, particularly women. The communities had not been prepared for the consultations with regard to what a consultation is: the objectives, procedures and expectations of the community consultation process. Traditional practices ensured that men were the main group to freely offer their opinions during public meetings and community consultations. Preparation of both men and women prior to the consultation would ensure that the community was informed of their rights and able to negotiate a better future. (*Summary from Land Portal*)

King, Rudith, and John Bugri. 2013. *The Gender and Equity Implications of Land-Related Investments on Land Access, Labour and Income-Generating Opportunities in Northern Ghana: The Case Study of Integrated Tamale Fruit Company*. Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

No abstract available.

Summary:

“This report investigates the gender-differentiated implications of agricultural investments in Ghana and at the policies and practices that shape outcomes for women and men. The report draws on a review of the literature on agricultural investments in Ghana and analysis of the relevant policy frameworks, on the one hand; and on fieldwork conducted in late 2011 and early 2012 to investigate the case of the Integrated Tamale Food Company (ITFC), on the other. Gender has been a largely neglected issue in research about agricultural investments. Earlier studies have looked at the social and environmental consequences of large-scale land acquisitions in Ghana. This includes concern for the potential deepening of food insecurity and loss of access to farmland and common pool resources for rural farmers. Others have pointed to the real land governance challenges that these processes pose. Ghana does however have long-standing experience with company-farmer partnerships. One such partnership is the Integrated Tamale Fruit Company (ITFC), a horticulture venture based on a nucleus estate and an outgrower scheme. Under the ITFC model outgrowers retain full control over their land, and mango cultivation for sale through ITFC is limited to 1 acre, in part so as not to displace domestic food production. Understanding the gender-differentiated

implications of the national policy frameworks regulating agricultural investments, of the outcomes of these investments as reflected in the literature, and of the more in-depth case study concerning ITFC can provide insights for international debates about how best to promote more inclusive models of agricultural investment” (King and Bugri 2013, iv).

Kinoti, Kathambi. 2012. “Land Grabs: The Threat to African Women’s Livelihoods.” *Open Democracy*, February 10. <https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/5050/land-grabs-threat-to-african-womens-livelihoods/>.

No abstract available.

Summary:

“Despite the African Union's commitment to strengthening women's access and control of land by placing land rights in the public domain of human rights, it is silent on the issue of land grabs. This is a gap that the AU's land policy framework needs to plug, says Kathambi Kinoti” (Kinoti 2012, 1).

Koopman, Jeanne, and Iba Mar Faye. 2012. “Land Grabs, Women’s Farming, and Women’s Activism in Africa.” Paper presented at International Conference on Global Land Grabbing II, Ithaca, NY, October 17-19.

Abstract:

This paper develops a simple model of the inner workings of the African agrarian household as a means of analyzing how exploitative policies, including land grabs, affect household heads, dependent males, and women differently. It argues that the analysis of the relations of production and distribution within household is highly relevant to understanding the reactions of these three different groups both to land grabs and to different proposals for land reform. Defining surplus as that part of a product or service that is not retained by the producer, the second part of the paper tries to show just *how* the agrarian surplus has been extracted from households. It argues that the concentration of the rural household surplus in the hands of a patriarchal household head both facilitates surplus extraction by external agents (states and transnational corporations) and exacerbates differences in interests between women and men. The third part of the paper attempts to show how an analysis of household relations of production can help us better understand differences in how household heads, dependent males and women farmers are likely to perceive their own interests when threatened by different types of land grabs and when assessing differing proposals for land reform. The framework helps clarify why women farmers’ interests are so often ignored in land reform processes and how risky it can be for women farmers from poor households to join the struggle for women’s land rights. (*Abstract from original source*)

Lamb, Vanessa, Laura Schoenberger, Carl Middleton, and Borin Un. 2017. “Gendered Eviction, Protest and Recovery: A Feminist Political Ecology Engagement with

Land Grabbing in Rural Cambodia.” *The Journal of Peasant Studies* 44 (6): 1215-34.

Abstract:

We examine what we argue has been overlooked in the Cambodian context: the roles and practices of women in relation to men and their complementary struggles to protest land grabbing and eviction, and subsequently rebuild community and state relations. We present research carried out in Cambodia in 2014–2015 in Kratie, the country’s most concessioned province. Through a feminist political ecology lens, we examine how protest and post-eviction community governance are defined as women’s or men’s work. Our case also reveals how ‘rebuilding’ gender relations in rural Cambodia simultaneously rebuilds uneven community and state relations. (*Abstract from original source*)
Keyword: gender; land grab; eviction; Cambodia; Southeast Asia; state-gender relations

Lanz, Kristina, Elisabeth Prügl, and Jean-David Gerber. 2019. “The Poverty of Neoliberalized Feminism: Gender Equality in a ‘Best Practice’ Large-Scale Land Investment in Ghana.” *The Journal of Peasant Studies* 47 (3): 525-43.

Abstract:

Feminist ideas have entered the neoliberal agricultural development agenda, including increasingly ubiquitous public-private partnerships and businesses. Rhetorically committed to gender equality, these new development actors have reduced equality to a matter of numbers, seeking to include women in their projects while disregarding intersectionally gendered power relations that suffuse any development context. This article seeks to illustrate how such power relations inhabit business-led development projects. Based on ethnographic research of a ‘best practice’ large-scale land investment in Ghana’s Volta Region, we argue that a narrow focus on including women and superficial Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) promises fail to address intersectional inequalities because they pay inadequate attention to local institutions for resource management and the power relations they embed. Focusing on gender equality without regard to local institutions at best serves to empower a few well-connected women and at worst acts as a cover-up of highly exploitative practices. (*Abstract from original source*)

Levien, Michael. 2015. “Gender and Land Grabs in Comparative Perspective.” In *Gender Equality and Sustainable Development*, edited by Melissa Leach, 1st Edition. London: Routledge.

No abstract available.

Summary:

Rural people across the global South are confronting increasing demands on their lands for a variety of economic purposes. Whether for Special Economic Zones (SEZs), dams, mining, industry, urban real estate or transnational agricultural investments, rural land

dispossession is now a central feature of economic accumulation and political contestation in many countries. This chapter seeks to advance our understanding of the gendered implications of such dispossession. It does so through a comparative analysis of five cases of rural land dispossession driven by different purposes in diverse socio-historical contexts. (*Summary from Routledge*)

Levien, Michael. 2017. “Gender and Land Dispossession: A Comparative Analysis.” *The Journal of Peasant Studies* 44 (6): 1111–34.

Abstract:

This paper seeks to advance our understanding of the gendered implications of rural land dispossession. It does so through a comparative analysis of five cases of dispossession that were driven by different economic purposes in diverse agrarian contexts: the English enclosures; colonial and post-colonial rice irrigation projects in the Gambia; large dams in India; oil palm cultivation in Indonesia; and Special Economic Zones in India. The paper identifies some of the common gendered effects of land dispossession, showing in each case how this reproduced women’s lack of independent land rights or reversed them where they existed, intensified household reproductive work and occurred without meaningful consultation with—much less decision-making by—rural women. The paper also demonstrates ways in which the gendered consequences of land dispossession vary across forms of dispossession and agrarian milieu. The most important dimension of this variation is the effect of land loss on the gendered division of labour, which is often deleterious but varies qualitatively across the cases examined. In addition, the paper illustrates further variations within dispossessed populations as gender intersects with class, caste and other inequalities. The paper concludes that land dispossession consistently contributes to gender inequality, albeit in socially and historically specific ways. So while defensive struggles against land dispossession will not in themselves transform patriarchal social relations, they may be a pre-condition for more offensive struggles for gender equality. (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: land grabs; gender; dispossession; displacement; enclosure

LICADHO. 2014. ‘Good Wives’: Women Land Campaigners and the Impact of Human Rights Activism. Phnom Penh, Cambodia: Cambodian League for the Promotion and Defense of Human Rights (LICADHO).

No abstract available.

Summary:

During the last decade tens of thousands of Cambodians have been forcibly removed from their homes or their farmland and many more threatened with displacement. Since 2000, LICADHO has collected data which shows that over half a million people have been affected by land conflicts in which the state is involved. In response, many affected communities have organized themselves to resist eviction or to seek proper redress for

what they have lost. Cambodian women have been at the forefront of these campaigns with many becoming effective community leaders and human rights advocates.

To mark the start of the global campaign, 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence, LICADHO has published a report exploring how the lives of women campaigners are changed by their activism. It reveals the high price women pay, suffering not only serious economic and emotional impacts but also often domestic violence and family breakdown. (*Summary from LICADHO*)

Majumder, A. 2014. “Impact of Land Acquisition on Women: An Anthropological Case Study on Gokulpur, Paschim Medinipur (India).” *International Journal of Interdisciplinary and Multidisciplinary Studies (IJIMS)* 1 (4): 26-34.

Abstract:

The acquisition of agricultural land for industrialisation leads to a number of socio-economic consequences. The Paschim Medinipur district in the state of West Bengal is chiefly an agricultural district where more than seventy per cent of the population lives in the rural area and among them majority depends on agriculture and agriculture related occupations. In this paper, we have presented some empirical data on the socio-economic consequences of women of the establishment of the industry on the fertile agricultural land in the Kharagpur subdivision of Paschim Medinipur district in the early 1990s with the cooperation of West Bengal government. The findings revealed that acquisition of agricultural land for industry leads to change among the women as well as children of landloser families who depended on agriculture for their livelihood. Field data showed that the school dropout rate among female members of landloser families have been increased than nonlandloser families. This study has also showed that after the acquisition, livelihood pattern have been changed among the female members of landloser families. Moreover the “age at marriage” have been decreased among the girls of landloser families than non- landloser families. (*Abstract from original source*)
Keywords: land acquisition; industrilisation; landloser; women; gender; dropout; age at marriage

McGinn, Colleen. 2015. “These Days We Have to Be Poor People: Women’s Narratives of the Economic Aftermath of Forced Evictions in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.” Paper presented at Land Grabbing, Conflict and Agrarian-Environmental Transformations: Perspectives from East and South-East Asia Conference, Chiang Mai University, Thailand, June 5-6.

Abstract:

This paper explores the economic aftermath of forced evictions for urban Cambodian women. It is based on an analysis of in-depth narratives of 22 women displaced from five locations in Phnom Penh, the capital city. Evictees’ overall post-eviction coping and adaptation proved to be grounded in their economic circumstances, which in turn framed other risk and resilience factors. The nature and degree of economic harm resulting from

the evictions varied widely, and followed specific patterns consistent with pre-displacement socioeconomic status, livelihood source, and the degree to which social networks were embedded in their former neighborhoods. Those who worked in the informal sector experienced shocks to their livelihoods, especially those who landed in remote locations. Homeowners were more typically harmed in terms of assets: they might maintain relatively stable incomes, but lose enormous value of their properties. A third group experienced a catastrophic double blow affecting both livelihoods and assets; this group tended to include shopkeepers whose shelter and livelihoods were both tied to their property. There were also some women who reported that forced eviction had had a relatively benign impact on them. These narratives were idiosyncratic. However, several explanatory factors emerged, including these women had intact livelihoods, superficial ties to their former neighborhoods, and/or found new housing nearby. I conclude with recommendations, including compensation at full market value for seized properties, and broad urban planning measures to protect and encourage affordable rental housing within the city, proximate to diverse livelihood opportunities. A housing/shelter focus to advocacy, policy, and assistance strategies is too narrow, because it poorly addresses the livelihood crisis experienced by many of the displaced. (*Abstract from original source*)

Millar, Gearoid. 2015. “We Have No Voice for That’: Land Rights, Power, and Gender in Rural Sierra Leone.” *Journal of Human Rights* 14 (4): 445–62.

Abstract:

Much attention has recently focused on the lease of land throughout the global south to nations and corporations in the global north. It is argued that local people’s access to and relationships with the land are being redefined and that large segments of these populations are being denied their rights to land with potentially detrimental effects for their livelihoods and food security. This article explores one such project in Sierra Leone, focusing specifically on the experiences of rural women. The data illustrate how these women experience this 40,000 hectare bioenergy project as disempowering and disruptive. While these women may have the formal right to participate in land decisions and project benefits, they had no such right in practice. I argue here that this outcome is the result of compound disempowerment that results from the complex interaction of indigenous social and cultural dynamics and the supposedly gender- neutral logic of liberal economics. (*Abstract from original source*)

Miyasaka Porro, Noemi, and Joaquim Shiraishi Neto. 2014. “Coercive Harmony in Land Acquisition: The Gendered Impact of Corporate ‘Responsibility’ in the Brazilian Amazon.” *Feminist Economics* 20 (1): 227-48.

Abstract:

In rural development, women’s access to land is recognized as a condition for reaching gender equality. This contribution discusses the tension between this formal recognition and concrete realities in rural development for traditional Amazonian communities by examining large-scale land acquisitions in Brazil, a land-abundant developing country, in

the wake of the 2007–08 global food price crises. This study applies anthropological and legal perspectives to analyze problems related to gender inequality caused by large-scale land acquisitions. It argues that inequalities cannot be resolved by simply changing regulations related to traditional communities' and women's rights and that gender relations and land tenure issues reflect interconnected social arrangements based on historical specificities of traditional communities. Case studies show that land acquisitions by outsiders disrupt these arrangements, despite stated commitments to social and environmental responsibility. Such "coercive harmony" is only unmasked when communities are conscious of their rights, enabling effective use of the legal apparatus. (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: gender; food security; land; development; Amazon

Mollett, Sharlene. 2010. "(Are You Ready)? Gender, Race and Land Registration in the Biosphere Reserve." *Gender, Place & Culture* 17 (3): 357–75.

Abstract:

Geographers and political ecologists are paying increased attention to the ways in which conservation policies disrupt indigenous customary tenure arrangements. However, much less attention is given to the particular ways protected area management shapes natural resource access for indigenous women. With this in mind, this article examines how a recently proposed state land project in Honduras, Catastro y Regularizacion, requires that Miskito residents individuate collective family lands in the interests of 'sustainable development' and 'biodiversity protection'. In the debates that followed the project's announcement, Miskito women feared that such measures would erase their customary access to family lands. As the state's project seeks to re-order Reserve land, intra-Miskito struggles intensified among villagers. Such struggles are not only gendered but are shaped by longstanding processes of racialization in Honduras and the Mosquitia region. Drawing upon ethnographic research, I argue that Miskito women's subjectivity and rights to customary family holdings are informed by their ability to make 'patriarchal bargains' with Miskito men inside the Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve. Such findings suggest that scholars and policy makers continue to reflect on the ways global conservation and sustainable development practices may undermine indigenous customary tenure securities, whether intentionally or not. (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: indigenous peoples; gender; land registration; protected areas; racialization

Morgan, Miranda. 2017. "Women, Gender and Protest: Contesting Oil Palm Plantation Expansion in Indonesia." *The Journal of Peasant Studies* 44 (6): 1177–96.

Abstract:

This study explores the conditions that lead to the participation of rural women in protest. Drawing from a case study in Indonesia, it finds that gender relations are integral to shaping the motivations and political opportunities that lead to women's decisions to participate in protests around land. It also argues that gender relations are not fixed. Individual actors play an influential role in opening up new political opportunities for

women, who are discursively cast as apolitical. Despite dominant gender relations that tend to exclude women from politics, the presence of women in protest opens up the possibility that rural struggles around land and dispossession, though ostensibly free of explicit gender concerns, may simultaneously serve as sites of struggle over gender as well. (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: oil palm; gender; protest; land grabs

Mutopo, Patience. 2011. “Gendered Dimensions of Land and Rural Livelihoods: The Case of New Settler Farmer Displacement at Nuanetsi Ranch, Mwenezi District, Zimbabwe.” Paper presented at International Conference on Global Land Grabbing, University of Sussex, April 6-8.

Abstract:

The bio fuels boom has recently been gaining much currency in Zimbabwe. This revolution has had different impacts on the lives of men and women who occupied land during the fast track land reform programme. A notable hecstrage of land that was acquired for resettlement and given to beneficiaries has in recent months, from February 2010 until the present moment, been deemed to be land that was wrongly gazetted for resettlement during the mayhem (jambanja) phase by the government of Zimbabwe, through its line agencies at national, provincial and district level. The change in policy by the government of Zimbabwe was to pave way for large companies engaged in bio fuel production such as the Mwenezi Development Trust in conjunction with a consortium of former white commercial farmers regaining entry into large scale commercial production of bio fuels, crocodile farming and cattle ranching at Nuanetsi Ranch, in Zimbabwe. Nuanetsi Ranch had been invaded by villagers from different parts of Mwenezi, Chiredzi and Chivi communal areas since 2000. In February 2010 the government announced that the settlers had to be removed and resettled in other “uncontested lands” in the area, compromising their rights to sustainable livelihoods, human development and land acquisition. The perceptions of the men and women resident at Chigwizi has had a bearing on understanding the nature of gendered land and rural livelihoods in the context of bio fuel production in Zimbabwe after fast track land reform.

The events that have happened can be viewed as forced displacement by the government which encouraged the men and women to settle on that land in 2000. The outcomes of the displacement has compromised the right to livelihood, the right to land and the right to sustainable human development of the men and women as they have not been given any voice in the matter, which is being regulated by the government. I conclude by suggesting that the bio politics² rooted in the creation of a Zimbabwean bio economy, which has been defined as an economy based on ecological sensitive products and services produced by bio technology and renewable energy sources, (World Biotechnology Report 2008), has had rather negative consequences on the land based livelihoods of the men and women at Chigwizi. This has also compromised the gendered livelihoods of settlers at Chigwizi village, with women being more disadvantaged as they have difficulties in land access and utilization in rural Zimbabwe based on male primogeniture, political and cultural considerations. Policy makers should craft gender transformative policies in agro

fuel projects that do not jeopardise the livelihoods of agricultural based communities especially in cases where land reform is justified in terms of distributional justice. A gender analysis of displacement, bio fuels and rural livelihoods increases our understanding of land reforms in light of the political, economic and social forces shaping rural societies. *(Abstract from original source)*

Mutopo, Patience, and Manase Chiweshe. 2014. “Large-Scale Land Deals, Global Capital and the Politics of Livelihoods: Experiences of Women Small-Holder Farmers in Chisumbanje, Zimbabwe.” *International Journal of African Renaissance Studies - Multi-, Inter- and Transdisciplinarity* 9 (1): 84–99.

Abstract:

Large scale land acquisitions by foreign conglomerates in Zimbabwe have been a recurrent phenomenon within the last five years. This has led to land deals being negotiated with state, individual and nongovernmental actors, leading to the production of agro fuels. This article investigates how the large scale commercial land deals have affected the livelihoods of women small holder farmers, the role of global capital in entrenching discrimination of women and how the politics of resource use and distribution has become a central force in shaping livelihoods in Zimbabwe’s communal areas. The article is based on field work that was conducted in Ndowoyo communal area, in Chisumbanje village, from July 2011 until April 2012. The methods used for collecting data were in-depth interviews with the women, interviews with officials from the Platform for Youth Development, a nongovernmental organisation, Macdom Pvt Ltd and Ratings Investments, focus group discussions and personal observations that involved interactions with the women. In 2011, Macdom Pvt Ltd and Ratings Investments, both bio fuels companies owned by Billy Rautenbach started green fuel production operations in Chisumbanje and this has led to the altering of the livelihoods systems of women smallholder farmers. The argument seeks, first, to demonstrate how the company’s green fuel production systems have led to the loss of land for women and the redefinition of tenure in a communal area. Secondly it explores how the company has been involved in political issues that have undermined the role of development for the women and, thirdly, the article investigates how the women have created livelihood alternatives in an area which has been transformed from a communal rural area into almost an urban area. It concludes by suggesting the need to give primacy to women centred notions of agency in coping with the negative implications of commercial land deals on women’s livelihoods. *(Abstract from original source)*

Keywords: agro-fuel; large scale land deals; women’s livelihoods; Zimbabwean politics; Zimbabwean female agency

Ndi, Frankline A. 2019a. “Land Grabbing: A Gendered Understanding of Perceptions and Reactions from Affected Communities in Nguti Subdivision of South West Cameroon.” *Development Policy Review* 37 (3): 348–66.

Abstract:

This article examines the political economic processes and gendered consequences involved in large-scale land acquisition (LSLA) in rural South West Cameroon. The study adopts a gender-disaggregated approach to data collection to understand local perceptions and reactions to LSLA in the region. It shows how traditional cultural prescriptions have combined with contemporary land laws to masculinize power over land to the detriment of women. It argues that although men and women are both affected by LSLA projects, the impacts are much greater for women because what the state considers “empty land” is used by them to secure household food security. Second, it argues that amid societal discrimination over land-ownership rights, perceived gender differences between men and women appear “rational” in the event of LSLA —men follow their ascribed roles in overt reactions, women being more covert and much less vocal in land-related contests. New policies that promote rural women's land rights will not only empower them during land struggles, they will also provide communities with greater security to sustain ecologically viable livelihoods. (*Abstract from original source*)
Keywords: Cameroon; feminist political ecology; gender perceptions and reactions; land grabbing; large-scale land acquisition (LSLA); rural livelihoods

Ndi, Frankline A. 2019b. “Land Grabbing, Gender and Access to Land: Implications for Local Food Production and Rural Livelihoods in Nguti Sub-Division, South West Cameroon.” *Canadian Journal of African Studies / Revue Canadienne Des Études Africaines* 53 (1): 131–54.

Abstract:

This article examines the disproportionate gendered impacts of land grabbing amongst affected communities in Nguti subdivision of the South West Region of Cameroon. I argue that, first, preexisting land tenure systems and a shift to a capitalist agrarian production structure has led to unequal access to land between men and women. Second, I show that the loss of land to commercial interests has constrained women’s abilities to access land either for crop production and/or to harvest non-timber forest products (NTFPs), creating significant livelihood stress for them and their communities. I conclude by advocating that the state should formally recognise customary tenure, and mainstream gender within its institutions (customary and statutory) governing land and forest resources. Women need to be empowered through education and capacity-building programs to enable them to exercise their rights to access land, and benefit from resources. (*Abstract from original source*)

Nwapi, Chilenye. 2016. “Land Grab, Property Rights and Gender Equality in Pluralistic Legal Orders: A Nigerian Perspective.” *African Journal of Legal Studies* 9 (2): 124–46.

Abstract:

This article considers the impact of land grab on the promotion of gender inequality within the Nigerian pluralistic legal order. It examines the interface between customary law and statute law in the determination of land ownership and access in Nigeria. It

makes two key arguments. (1) While legal pluralism presents opportunities for curtailing the excesses of customary law, it has often resulted in the dominant legal system – statute law – fostering gender inequality in a manner that is beyond the capacity of the so-called barbaric customary laws. (2) The capacity of law to effectively address the problem of gender inequality within the context of land grab is very limited, because the nature of most land grab-related activities that promote gender inequality are appropriately legal and it is their unintended consequences that undermine women’s rights. The article argues for an effective use of the political process to complement legal interventions.

(Abstract from original source)

Keywords: land grab; customary law; statute law; legal pluralism; property rights; gender inequality

Nyantakyi-Frimpong, Hanson, and Rachel Bezner Kerr. 2017. “Land Grabbing, Social Differentiation, Intensified Migration and Food Security in Northern Ghana.” *The Journal of Peasant Studies* 44 (2): 421–44.

Abstract:

This paper argues that large-scale land appropriation is displacing subsistence farmers and reworking agrarian social relations in northern Ghana. The recent wave of farmland enclosure has not only resulted in heightened land scarcity, but also fostered a marked social differentiation within farming communities. The dominant form of inequality is an evolving class of landless and near-landless farmers. The majority of households cope with such dynamics by deepening their own self-exploitation in the production process. The fulcrum of this self-exploitation is gendered property rights as part of the conjugal contract, with men exerting a far greater monopoly over land resources than had previously been the case. Due to acute land shortages, women’s rights to use land as wives, mothers and daughters are becoming insecure, as their vegetable plots are being reclassified as male-controlled household fields. The paper further documents the painful choices that landless farmers have to make in order to meet livelihood needs, including highly disciplined, yet low-waged, farm labor work and sharecropping contracts. In these livelihood pathways, there emerge, again, exploitative relations of production, whereby surplus is expropriated from land-dispossessed migrant laborers and concentrated with farm owners. These dynamics produce a ‘simple reproduction squeeze’ for the land-dispossessed. Overall, the paper contributes to the emerging land grabbing literature by showing geographically specific processes of change for large-scale mining operations and gendered differentiated impacts. *(Abstract from original source)*

Keywords: land grabbing; gender relations; peasant class differentiation; food security; Ghana

Ocasiones, Leny G. 2018. “‘You Can’t Have Our Land’: Land Grabbing and the Feminization of Resistance in Aloguinsan, Cebu.” *Philippine Sociological Review* 66: 35–60.

Abstract:

Land grabbing has been present in the Philippines for the past decades. It occurs when local communities and individuals lose access to land that they previously used, thus threatening their lives and livelihood. Civil society organizations that are skeptical toward the growing trend of large-scale acquisitions by foreign corporations, however, argue that land grabbing can be committed by domestic actors and sometimes in cooperation with foreign actors. Land grabbing raises important questions about the welfare, livelihood, and land security of farmers in the Philippines. Using archival sources, key informant interviews, and focus group discussions, this study investigates women's experiences of land grabbing and resistance among farmers of Aloguinsan, Cebu. This study reveals that land grabbing has profound impacts on the lives of the farmers and that women farmers are affected differently than men because women are generally considered a vulnerable group. Further, land grabbing generated fierce resistance from farmers, especially from women who developed creative ways to defend their lives, land and community. The study concludes that the resistance put up by the Aloguinsan farmers is gendered, and serves as a case of the feminization of resistance. (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: land grabbing; feminization; resistance; women

Osabuohien, Evans S., Uchenna R. Efobi, Raoul T. Herrmann, and Ciliaka M. W. Gitau. 2019. "Female Labor Outcomes and Large-Scale Agricultural Land Investments: Macro-Micro Evidence from Tanzania." *Land Use Policy* 82 (March): 716–28.

Abstract:

This paper examined the extent to which Large-scale Agricultural Land Investments (LALIs) has delivered on its promises (e.g. increased productivity, job creation, and rural development, particularly for rural women). We conducted empirical analyses using the Living Standards Measurement Study-Integrated Surveys on Agriculture (LSMS-ISA) dataset (macro evidence), which was complemented with two case studies of LALIs in Kilombero district, Morogoro region, Tanzania (micro evidence). The findings from the study revealed that the LALIs have limited effect on agricultural wage. However, the results show that LALIs have a negative association with the welfare of female-headed households located in communities with LALIs. On the micro evidence, we found that female-headed households working in the LALIs earned slightly lower agricultural wage compared to those not working in the LALIs. This implies that the use of LALIs in Tanzania to drive agricultural transformation requires specific targeting of potential beneficiaries. (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: agricultural transformation; labor market participation; large-scale land investments; gender

Ossome, Lyn. 2014. "Can the Law Secure Women's Rights to Land in Africa? Revisiting Tensions between Culture and Land Commercialization." *Feminist Economics* 20 (1): 155–77.

Abstract:

This contribution is concerned with the challenges of securing women's rights to land in Africa in the context of contemporary land deals through a discussion of three distinct but interrelated problems in the framing of women's land rights discourses. First, this study discusses the interface between rights and "custom" to highlight the inherent distortions of African customary law. Second, it argues that liberal formulations of the law are limited by a set of assumptions regarding women's position in the political economy. And third, this discussion discursively assesses the debates in the literature regarding the efficacy of law in protecting women's rights to land. The discussion proceeds from a critique of two approaches to promoting gender equity in land tenure systems: the institutional approach, which deals with women's formal land rights; and the political economy approach, which deals with the structural nature of women's traditional relations to land. (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: women; customary law; commercialization; political economy; justice; land

Park, Clara Mi Young. 2018. "Our Lands Are Our Lives': Gendered Experiences of Resistance to Land Grabbing in Rural Cambodia." *Feminist Economics* 25 (4): 21-44.

Abstract:

Cambodia is known as a hotspot for land grabbing in Southeast Asia. Land dispossession due to elite capture, natural resources exploitation, and agribusiness development has catalyzed international attention following outbreaks of violence, mass protests, and retaliations. Agrarian economies, as well as social and gender relations and thus power dynamics at different levels, are being transformed and reshaped, facilitated by policies that promote capital penetration in rural areas and individualization of land access. Focusing on cases of rural dispossession and political resistance in Ratanakiri and Kampong Speu provinces, and drawing on reports, government documents, focus group discussions, and interviews, this study analyzes the gendered implications of land grabbing in contemporary Cambodia and argues that gender shapes and informs women's responses and politics, as well as the spaces in which these are played out. (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: women; gender; land grabs; dispossession; mobilization; Cambodia

Park, Clara Mi Young, and Ben White. 2017. "Gender and Generation in Southeast Asian Agro-Commodity Booms." *The Journal of Peasant Studies* 44 (6): 1103–10.

Abstract:

This article introduces the Special Issue on 'Gender and generation in agrarian and environmental transformation in Southeast Asia'. The contributions to this collection focus on the intersecting dynamics of gender, generation and class in Southeast Asian rural communities engaging with expanding capitalist relations, whether in the form of large-scale corporate land acquisition or other forms of penetration of commodity economy. Gender and especially generation are relatively neglected dimensions in the literature on agrarian and environmental transformations in Southeast Asia. Drawing on

key concepts in gender studies, youth studies and agrarian studies, the papers mark a significant step towards a gendered and ‘generationed’ analysis of capitalist expansion in rural Southeast Asia, in particular from a political ecology perspective. In this article we introduce the papers and highlight the importance of bringing gender and generation, in their interaction with class dynamics, more squarely into agrarian and environmental transformation studies. This is key to understanding the implications of capitalist expansion for social relations of power and justice, and the potential of these relations to shape the outcomes for different women and men, younger and older, in rural society.

(Abstract from original source)

Keywords: gender; generation; agrarian transformation; land grab; capitalist expansion; Southeast Asia

Perry, Keisha-Khan Y. 2013. *Black Women against the Land Grab: The Fight for Racial Justice in Brazil*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.

No abstract available.

Summary:

In Brazil and throughout the African diaspora, black women, especially poor black women, are rarely considered leaders of social movements let alone political theorists. But in the northeastern city of Salvador, Brazil, it is these very women who determine how urban policies are established. Focusing on the Gamboa de Baixo neighborhood in Salvador’s city center, *Black Women against the Land Grab* explores how black women’s views on development have radicalized local communities to demand justice and social change. *(Summary from original source)*

Pham Thi, Nhung, Martin Kappas, and Heiko Faust. 2019. “Improving the Socioeconomic Status of Rural Women Associated with Agricultural Land Acquisition: A Case Study in Huong Thuy Town, Thua Thien Hue Province, Vietnam.” *Land* 8 (10): 151.

Abstract:

Since the 2000s, agricultural land acquisition (ALA) for urbanization and industrialization has been quickly implemented in Vietnam, which has led to a huge socioeconomic transformation in rural areas. This paper applies the sustainable livelihoods framework to analyze how ALA has impacted the socioeconomic status (SES) of rural women whose agricultural land was acquired. To get primary data, we surveyed 150 affected households, conducted three group discussions and interviewed nine key informants. The research findings reveal that ALA, when applied toward urbanization, has significantly improved the occupational status of rural women by creating non-farm job opportunities that have improved their income, socioeconomic knowledge and working skills. While their SES has been noticeably enhanced, these positive impacts are still limited in cases where ALA is applied toward industrial and energy development, since these purposes do not create many new jobs. Moreover, the unclear responsibility of stakeholders and inadequate livelihood rehabilitation programs

of ALA projects have obstructed the opportunities of rural women. To improve the SES of rural women, we recommend that ALA policy initiate a flexible livelihoods support plan based on the purpose of ALA and the concrete responsibilities of stakeholders and investors. (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: agricultural land acquisition; alternative job; socio-economic status; rural women and land use policy

Porsani, Juliana, Martina Angela Caretta, and Kari Lehtilä. 2019. "Large-Scale Land Acquisitions Aggravate the Feminization of Poverty: Findings from a Case Study in Mozambique." *GeoJournal* 84 (1): 215–36.

Abstract:

The local implications of large-scale land acquisitions (LSLAs), commonly referred to as land grabs, are at the center of an exponential production of scientific literature that only seldom focuses on gender. Our case study aims to contribute to filling this analytical gap. Based on structured interviews and focus groups, we investigate local experiences in the lower Limpopo valley in Mozambique, where a Chinese investor was granted 20,000 hectares in 2012. Our findings show that land access in the affected area varied prior to land seizure due to historical land use differences and after land seizure mainly due to non-universal compensation. Furthermore, we show that as farming conditions deteriorate, a trend toward both the feminization of smallholder farming and the feminization of poverty is consolidated. Succinctly, as available land becomes increasingly constricted, labor is allocated differently to alternative activities. This process is by no means random or uniform among households, particularly in a context in which women prevail in farm activities and men prevail in off-farm work. As men disengage further from smallholder farming, women remain directly dependent on fields that are smaller and of worse quality or reliant on precarious day labor in the remaining farms. We contend that the categories female-headed and male-headed households, although not inviolable, are useful in explaining the different implications of LSLAs in areas in which gender strongly substantiates individuals' livelihood alternatives.

(*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: female-headed households; feminization of poverty; gender; land grabbing; large-scale land acquisition; Mozambique's Limpopo valley

Radcliffe, Sarah A. 2013. "Gendered Frontiers of Land Control: Indigenous Territory, Women and Contests over Land in Ecuador." *Gender, Place & Culture* 21 (7): 1-18.

Abstract:

Agricultural and rural land has become the site of considerable policy, governmental and scholarly concern worldwide because of violence and dispossession, food insecurity and contests over private property regimes. Such issues are highly gendered in territories with majorities of indigenous populations where overlapping legal regimes (statutory, multicultural, customary) and histories of dispossession have created complex spatialities and access patterns. States' formalization of indigenous rights, neoliberal restructuring

and land appropriation are the backdrop to Ecuadorian women's struggles to access, retain and pass on land. Despite a burgeoning literature on Latin American indigenous territories, women are often invisible. Using collaborative research among two indigenous nationalities, the article analyses the political–economic, legal and *de facto* regimes shaping women's claims to land and indigenous territory. Focusing on Kichwa women in the rural Andes and Tsáchila women in a tropical export-oriented agricultural frontier area, the article examines the criteria and exclusionary practices that operate at multiple scales to shape women's (in)security in tenure. Women's struggles over claims to land and territory are also discussed. The article argues that Latin America's fraught land politics requires a gendered account of indigenous land–territoriality to unpack the cultural bias of western feminist accounts of multiculturalism and to document the racialized gender bias across socio-institutional relations. (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: gender; neoliberalism; collective title; Ecuador; land grabs; multiculturalism

Ryan, Caitlin. 2017. “Large-Scale Land Deals in Sierra Leone at the Intersection of Gender and Lineage.” *Third World Quarterly* 39 (1): 189-206.

Abstract:

There is wide engagement with large-scale land deals in sub-Saharan Africa, particularly from the perspectives of development and international political economy. Recently, scholars have increasingly pointed to a gendered lacuna in this literature. Engagement with gender tends to focus on potential differential impacts for men and women, and it also flags the need for more detailed empirical research of specific land deals. This paper draws from ethnographic data collected in Northern Sierra Leone to support the claim that the impacts of land deals are highly gendered, but it also argues that lineage in a land-owning family and patronage intersect with these gendered impacts. This data supports my claim that analysis of land deals should start from an understanding of the context-dependent, complex arrays of power and marginality. Such a starting point allows for a wider and ‘messier’ range of impacts and experiences to emerge. (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: land deals; Sierra Leone; gender; patronage

Salcedo-La Viña, Celine, and Maitri Morarji. 2016. “Making Women’s Voices Count in Community Decision-Making on Land Investments.” Working Paper, World Resources Institute, Washington, DC.

No abstract available.

Summary:

The adverse impacts of commercialization and large scale land acquisitions in the global South are often disproportionately borne by women. The loss of access to farmland and common areas hit women harder than men in many communities, and women are often excluded from compensation and benefit schemes. Women’s social disadvantages,

including their lack of formal land rights and generally subordinate position, make it difficult for them to voice their interests in the management and proposed allocation of community land to investors. While the development community and civil society have pushed for standards and safeguard policies that promote the meaningful involvement of rural communities generally in land acquisitions and investments, strengthening the participation of women as a distinct stakeholder group requires specific attention. This working paper examines options for strengthening women's participatory rights in the face of increasing commercial pressures on land in three countries: Mozambique, Tanzania, and the Philippines. It focuses on how regulatory reform—reforms in the rules, regulations, guidelines, and procedures that implement national land acquisition and investment laws—can promote gender equity and allow women to realize the rights afforded by national legal frameworks and international standards. The paper stems from a collaborative project between World Resources Institute and partner organizations in the three countries studied. (*Summary from original source*)

Salcedo-La Viña, Celine, and Laura Notess. 2017. "Ensuring Gender-Equity in Compensation and Resettlement Schemes Related to Commercial Land Investments in Tanzania and Mozambique." In *Responsible Land Governance: Towards an Evidence Based Approach*. Washington, DC: World Bank.

Abstract:

Large-scale land transfers have a disproportionate impact on women's land rights. Prior research has shown that women in many countries have limited participation in the decision-making process preceding alienation of land from their communities. This research extends this analysis into the context of compensation and resettlement processes, which are crucial to protecting the rights of local communities impacted by development projects. It does this by examining the relevant law and practice in Tanzania and Mozambique. Both countries have experienced periods of intense investor interest in land acquisition, and have developed some legal protections for the rights of communities to compensation and/or resettlement following land transfers. However, gender-blindness in these provisions permits the perpetuation of practices which negatively impact women's access to land and overall well-being.

The paper begins by surveying the relevant legal framework for each country, followed by a discussion of compensation and resettlement in practice, informed by a combination of a literature review and field research conducted by in-country partners. It then identifies key regulatory gaps, and proposes specific regulatory reforms to 1) improve women's participation and representation, 2) ensure women's inclusion in compensation, and 3) address loss of communal resources and infrastructure in a gender-sensitive manner. (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: gender; land acquisitions; women; compensation; resettlement

Salcedo-La Viña, Celine, and Laura Notess. 2018. "A Fair Share for Women: Toward More Equitable Land Compensation and Resettlement in Tanzania and Mozambique." Working Paper, World Resources Institute, Washington, DC.

No abstract available.

Summary:

"This paper examines how gaps in the legal frameworks governing land compensation and resettlement in Tanzania and Mozambique result in exclusionary outcomes for women. It builds on an earlier World Resources Institute (WRI) working paper, "Making Women's Voices Count in Community Decision-Making on Land Investments," which examines the regulatory frameworks governing the land acquisition processes and identifies ways to strengthen women's participation in the decision-making involved. This paper analyzes the subset of regulations that govern the parallel processes of land compensation and resettlement. Like the earlier paper, it stems from a collaborative project by WRI, the Tanzania Gender Networking Program (TGNP) Mtandao, the Tanzania Women Lawyers Association (TAWLA), and Centro Terra Viva (CTV) (in Mozambique). WRI conducted the legal analysis and literature review, with inputs from the country partners; the partners conducted field research, in some of which WRI participated. The project also included outreach activities in the communities studied and with relevant subnational and national government agencies. The goal of the project is to have women recognized as stakeholders in community land governance and create spaces for their engagement in decision-making processes" (Salcedo-La Viña and Notess 2018, 2).

Schroeder, Richard A. 1997. "Re-claiming' Land in The Gambia: Gendered Property Rights and Environmental Intervention." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 87 (3): 487-508.

Abstract:

By definition, land reclamation programs render marginally productive land resources more valuable to a broader set of users. The question of who gets access to rejuvenated lands is often highly political, however. Environmental managers "reclaim" land resources by rehabilitating them, but they simultaneously reanimate struggles over property rights in the process, allowing specific groups of resource users to literally and figuratively "re-claim" the land. Relying on data gathered during fourteen months of field work between 1989 and 1995, this paper analyzes the openings created by environmental policy reforms introduced over the past two decades along The Gambia River Basin, and the tactics and strategies rural Gambians have developed to manipulate these policies for personal gain. Specifically, I demonstrate how women market gardeners pressed "secondary" usufruct rights to great advantage to ease the economic impact of persistent drought conditions for the better part of a decade, only to have male lineage heads and community leaders "re-claim" the resources in question through donor-generated agroforestry and soil and water management projects. This is thus a study of the responses different community groups have made to a shifting international development agenda centered on environmental goals. It is simultaneously an analysis of those

environmental policies and practices and their impact on gendered patterns of resource access and control within a set of critical rural livelihood systems. (*Abstract from original source*)

Sexsmith, Kathleen. 2017. *Promoting Gender Equality in Foreign Agricultural Investments: Lessons from Voluntary Sustainability Standards*. IISD Report. Winnipeg, Manitoba: International Institute for Sustainable Development.

No abstract available.

Summary:

This report looks deeper into the successes and failures of existing global standards on agribusinesses in developing countries to determine how they can help improve the situation of rural women. (*Summary from original source*)

Steckley, Marylynn, and Joshua Steckley. 2019. “Post-Earthquake Land Appropriations and the Dispossession of Rural Women in Haiti.” *Feminist Economics* 25 (4): 45-67.

Abstract:

This study examines the trajectory of rural women’s labor in the wake of post-earthquake land appropriations in Haiti. Drawing on ethnographic field research conducted between 2010 and 2013, it explores gendered access to land in Haiti in both historical and contemporary contexts, paying attention to the nature of rural gender relations and how they influence women’s access to land and their roles in petty commerce. The study describes the stratification of rural market women, their lived experience, and how losing land access will affect their traditional roles as market women. Ultimately it argues that without access to land, and a paucity of available wage work, recent dispossession will intensify existing vulnerabilities for rural women and narrow their means of household production by forcing them to depend on informal market activity in their roles as machann (market women). (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: women’s labor; primitive accumulation; agrarian transition; Haiti; earthquake; land grabs

Tandon, Nidhi. 2010. “New Agribusiness Investments Mean Wholesale Sell-out for Women Farmers.” *Gender & Development* 18 (3): 503–14.

Abstract:

Globalisation impacts on local land markets and land-use; land transaction costs affect food prices; and the combined effect is particularly damaging to women who produce food and who put food on the table for their families. This paper examines three issues: what is attracting investors and market speculators into the farm and land sectors? What is at stake for small farmers and especially women farmers and long-term impacts for food production and food security? And what action is needed to enable women to secure

access to natural resource and land assets for current and future generations? (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: land-grab; food prices; women farmers; commodity futures trading

Tandon, Nidhi. 2012. “Low Income Women: First Casualties of Green Economy Land Grab.” *Heinrich Böll Stiftung North America*, June 5.
<https://us.boell.org/en/2012/06/05/low-income-women-first-casualties-green-economy-land-grab>.

No abstract available.

Summary:

“In our understanding of the green economy, one thing is clear: rural women have already faced eviction or exclusion from land ‘grabbed’ for powerful green agendas that are not their own. This is because the current political/economic paradigm ensures that the interests of corporate actors and powerful vested interests in the global and export economies in the productive capacity of land (1) and water are protected while small farming communities producing for domestic markets are not” (Tandon 2012).

Tandon, Nidhi. 2015. *From Under Their Feet - Land Grab Impacts on Rural Women in African Countries*. Toronto, Canada: Networked Intelligence for Development. doi:10.13140/RG.2.1.1330.1928.

No abstract available.

Summary:

It is important to address the immediate and devastating effects of land grab for farmers and national economies through policy change and community empowerment. Longer term solutions will need to include but also go beyond land reform, land audits or regulatory codified procedures and guidelines to address systemic issues. At the core of the land grab manifestation are several intersecting issues. One of these is the international trade regime. Another is the right to food². Another is the promise of energy security. These systems often work at cross purposes. To effectively protect land and women’s rights, we need to examine the terms of bilateral trade agreements and the European Partnership Agreements and how they undermine food sovereignty³ and rights to nutrition and affordable food. (*Summary from original source*)

Tsikata, Dzodzi, and Joseph Awetori Yaro. 2014. “When a Good Business Model Is Not Enough: Land Transactions and Gendered Livelihood Prospects in Rural Ghana.” *Feminist Economics* 20 (1): 202–26.

Abstract:

Recent large-scale commercial agriculture projects in developing countries have raised

concerns about the effects on natural resource-based livelihood activities of local people. A significant weakness in the emerging literature is the lack of a gender perspective on implications for agrarian livelihoods. This article explores the gendered aspects of land transactions on livelihood prospects in the Northern Region of Ghana. Drawing on qualitative research from two commercial agriculture projects, the article examines how pre-existing gender inequalities in agrarian production systems, as well as gender biases in project design, are implicated in post-project livelihood activities. The article concludes that a good business model of a land deal, even one that includes local communities in production and profit sharing, is not sufficient to protect women's livelihood prospects if projects ignore pre-existing gender inequalities and biases, which limit access to opportunities. (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: business model; commercial agriculture; commons; gender; livelihoods; land tenure

Verma, Ritu. 2014. "Land Grabs, Power, and Gender in East and Southern Africa: So, What's New?" *Feminist Economics* 20 (1): 52–75.

Abstract:

When land grabs are viewed from a gendered and historical lens, critical questions arise concerning three domains of inquiry about what is arguably "new," "foreign," and "large-scale?" They highlight historical continuities from the colonial past elite and male capture and gendered micro-political land grabs unabated over long periods of time, which once aggregated across Sub-Saharan Africa, are large-scale in themselves. This contribution reflects on feminist political-ecological research on gender and land in Kenya, Mozambique, and Madagascar and provides windows into negotiations and contestations in processes of land grabs. It analyzes what is new, while considering relations of power and knowledge that shape different ways land grabs are named and, therefore, the kinds of actions that are subsequently prescribed. Land grabs are occurring in spite of strong laws and policies, illustrating the critical role of power relations in shaping them.

(*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: land grabs; gender; historical continuities; scale; elite capture; East and Southern Africa

Waldorf, Abby. 2013. "When Land Gets Grabbed, Do Women Get Sidelined?" *Thrive: The Future of Our Food, Water and Environment* (blog). June 3.

<https://wle.cgiar.org/thrive/2013/06/03/when-land-gets-grabbed-do-women-get-sidelined>.

No abstract available.

Summary:

"Amidst land grabbing discussions and debates on the benefits of smallholder farms vs. large mechanized farms, we seem to have left out an important discussion. What happens to rural women when corporations grab up land in Africa?"

“Oxfam’s new report, *Promise, Power and Poverty*, takes a deeper look into the immediate impact of land investments ‘on women’s land use-options, on their livelihoods, on food availability and the cost of living, and ultimately, on women’s access to land for food production’” (Waldorf 2013).

White, Julia, and Ben White. 2012. “Gendered Experiences of Dispossession: Oil Palm Expansion in a Dayak Hibun Community in West Kalimantan.” *Journal of Peasant Studies* 39 (3–4): 995–1016.

Abstract:

This article explores the gendered experience of monocrop oil-palm expansion in a Hibun Dayak community in Sanggau District, West Kalimantan (Indonesia). It shows how the expanding corporate plantation and contract farming system has undermined the position and livelihood of indigenous women in this already patriarchal community. The shifting of land tenure from the community to the state and the practice of the ‘family head’ system of smallholder plot registration has eroded women’s rights to land, and women are becoming a class of plantation labour. At the same time, as in other cases of expansion of agrarian corporate commodity production, we can discern a familiar pattern of ambivalence between, on the one hand, the attractions of regular cash income and, on the other, the loss of resource tenure and autonomy, which helps to explain the community’s gendered experience of coercion, exploitation, intimidation, consent and resistance (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: oil palm; land grab; contract farming; gender; Kalimantan; Indonesia

Wight, Emily. 2015. “How Land Rights Are Politicising Cambodia’s Women.” *OpenDemocracy*, April 14. <https://www.opendemocracy.net/5050/emily-wight/how-land-rights-are-politicising-cambodia%27s-women>.

No abstract available.

Summary:

Land grabbing and forced evictions have created an activist movement among women who traditionally conform to strict gender roles. (*Summary from original source*)

Wisborg, Poul. 2014. “Transnational Land Deals and Gender Equality: Utilitarian and Human Rights Approaches.” *Feminist Economics* 20 (1): 24-51.

Abstract:

Transnational land deals pose vexing normative (ethical) questions, not least concerning gendered participation and outcomes. This article explores utilitarian and human rights approaches to gender equality in selected policy initiatives on the land deals. While global policy literature manifests growing attention to women in agriculture, the review

found the analysis of gender in early policy initiatives to be absent or weak. Utilitarian arguments were used to justify deals but rarely presented women's participation as a means of social progress or so-called smart economics. Human rights documents were more likely to be critical of the deals and to mention gender, though with little elaboration. While to some extent amended by the emphasis on gender equality in the 2012 Voluntary Guidelines on tenure governance, failures to mobilize the feminist potential in utilitarian and human rights approaches call for more proactive gender analysis and advocacy when addressing transnational land deals as gendered power struggles. (*Abstract from original source*)

Keywords: equality; ethics; gender; human rights; land policy

Wonani, Charlotte, William Mbuta, and Augustine Mkandawire. 2013. "The Gender and Equity Implications of Land-Related Investments on Land Access and Labour and Income-Generating Opportunities: A Case Study of Selected Agricultural Investments in Zambia." Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization.

No abstract available.

Summary:

"In recent years, Zambia has witnessed increased interest from private investors in acquiring land for agriculture. As elsewhere, large-scale land acquisitions are often accompanied with promises of capital investments to build infrastructure, bring new technologies and know-how, create employment, and improve market access, among other benefits. But agricultural investments create risks as well as opportunities, for instance in relation to loss of land for family farmers. While much debate on 'land grabbing' has discussed risks and opportunities in an aggregate way, it is critical to understand the distribution of the costs and benefits created by an investment project. For example agricultural investments create gendered outcomes that are poorly understood. Gender inequalities in Zambia, as seen across much of Sub-Saharan Africa, shape access to land, agricultural assets, inputs, services and rural employment opportunities. These gender inequalities are partially responsible for the underperformance of the agricultural sector. Investments in the agriculture sector must therefore account for and challenge these inequalities if they are to deliver their stated benefits.

"This study investigates the gender dimensions of agricultural investments in Zambia through two case studies. The first case study is the Kaleya Smallholder Company Ltd (KASCOL), an agribusiness company operating in Mazabuka district in Zambia's Southern Province since 1980. KASCOL produces sugar cane, which it sells to Zambia Sugar PLC. Cane is produced both from KASCOL's nucleus estate and from an outgrower scheme currently involving 160 smallholders who hold 14-year renewable sub-leases on company-leased land. The second case is ETC Bio-Energy Limited, previously Mpongwe Development Company (MDC), in Mpongwe District, Copperbelt Province. ETC cultivates a mix of crops, including jatropha, on company run plantations. In 2011 ETC sold the farms to a Zambian multinational agribusiness firm, Zambeef. As this transfer occurred so recently, attention is focused in this report on assessing the

experience under MDC and ETC Bio-Energy. Both KASCOL and MDC projects began as joint ventures between the government of Zambia and the Commonwealth Development Corporation (CDC). This indicates the development orientation of both of the projects from the outset albeit through a vision of agricultural modernisation through large-scale agricultural enterprises. These two cases are not representative of the new wave of land-based investments for agriculture but, because of their duration, have some lessons to share concerning gender and equity in agricultural investments” (Wonani et al. 2013, iv).

Yengoh, Genesis Tambang, Frederick Ato Armah, and Karin Steen. 2015. “Women’s Bigger Burden: Disparities in Outcomes of Large Scale Land Acquisition in Sierra Leone.” *Gender Issues* 32 (4): 221–44.

Abstract:

Women farmers make up a majority of small-scale food producers in sub-Saharan Africa. Despite their important role in the food and livelihood security of their households and communities, women continue to face substantial challenges in their rights of and access to land resources in the region. In a number of countries such as Sierra Leone where large-scale land acquisition is ongoing, we posit that women’s predicament may further deteriorate. Using data drawn from a survey of household and livelihood activities, focus groups and interviews we examine the outcomes of large-scale land acquisitions on women at the local level in two districts in Sierra Leone. We found that first, women depend more on land-based natural resources that directly affect the day-to-day welfare of households (such as firewood and medicinal plants) than men. Second, land acquisitions have led to a significant fall in the incomes of women and men. The effects of the fall of women’s income have more direct and profound consequences on household wellbeing compared with men. Third, men tend to rank the effects of land acquisitions on women lower than women do. We conclude that current social and cultural norms and women’s role in rural societies is complex and predisposes women to negative livelihood processes and outcomes associated with large-scale land acquisitions. Policy interventions designed to address local and national challenges to socio-economic and cultural development should recognize the crucial role played by women and be responsive to their special needs. (*Abstract from original source*)