

Platform initiated by AUC-DARBE, ILC-Africa, IGAD, Landesa and YILAA



STRATEGIC PLAN

Funded by: International Land Coalition (ILC)



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SUMMARY

Governance is a critical factor in achieving the African Union's Agenda 2063, Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals in Africa. The aspirations detailed in Agenda 2063 are revolutionary and transformative. The birth of the Africa we want therefore depends on the inclusiveness, engagement, empowerment and deployment of young people in innovative and creative ways as a resource for the economic transformation of the continent.

Access to land constitutes a determining but not sufficient dimension of access to economic and political autonomy for young rural people. The ability to enjoy one's own work and to create or stabilize a marital union, access to capital and credit, and income levels offered by family farming are all other dimensions of economic empowerment trajectories in country sides. One of the most widespread ideas on this subject in Africa is that which highlights the importance of promoting "entrepreneurship" among young people, implying that the employability of young people could be improved by promoting entrepreneurship. There are indeed many actors in African countries who intervene in the land sector to promote greater inclusion of young people in land governance policies. It is in this perspective that the consortium composed of CSA, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the International Land Coalition (ILC), Landesa, and Young Initiative for Land in Africa (YILAA) decided to set up a platform to bring together the various land actors in Africa, to synergize their efforts to promote young people's access to land, their control, their ownership and their use. This platform aims to provide a forum for actors from government, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), International Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), the private sector, academia and community representatives to dialogue on policies and practices aimed at improving integration, representation, participation and empowerment of young people in land governance processes at all levels on the continent. Specifically, this platform aims to be a tool that will:

Provide a multi-agency coordination mechanism to organize, connect and mobilize youth engagement and representation in land governance processes at all levels in Africa; Strengthen youth leadership and organizational capacities to engage and influence land governance processes in Africa; Bridging the knowledge gap through the development of a data generation and dissemination strategy informed by ILC training sessions on youth-generated data resulting from youth indicators on land governance; Promote and advance gender justice with a particular focus on the land rights of women and indigenous communities.

In the process of implementing this strategic planning and operationalizing the theory of change, the activities first involved carrying out a comprehensive research, including a literature review and data collection in many countries, was conducted to identify key challenges and needs, guiding the strategy development.

- Some of the major issues include:
- The low level of information / land training of young people;
- Weak synergy between actors involved in youth-focused land governance in Africa;
- An ineffective framework for exchange between the actors involved in land governance;

- Insufficient land opportunities for young people in Africa;
- Generalized land insecurity among young people;
- Insufficient political commitment to youth-centred land governance;
- The negative effects of climate change on the youth land rights;
- The low participation of young people in land issues;
- Land grabbing at the expense of young people.

Analysis of the information obtained also revealed that the land situation in Africa is characterized by the interweaving of standards and authorities in land regulation.

We also noted a plurality of land actors involved in several sectors of activity, notably agriculture and adaptation to climate change. These stakeholders include youth, women, indigenous peoples and other vulnerable people. The SWOT analysis of the issues related to this question revealed:

In terms of **strengths**, we note:

- Existence of a diversity of stakeholders with varied profiles in various countries in Africa
- The texts in force seem to be concerned with everyone being able to use the land, even if they do not own it;
- Consideration of the land governance contexts of different countries in Africa;
- Professional experience of land actors.

In terms of **weakness**,

- Poor knowledge of legal procedures;
- Difficulty of access to land to carry out activities by young people, especially for the young women ;
- Inefficiency of forums for exchanges with the main actors involved in land governance;
- Regulations that are out of step with local realities;
- The weight of habits and customs;
- Bad regional representation policy;
- Land tenure insecurity for youth;
- Youth food insecurity;
- Insufficient political commitment to people-centred land governance;
- Weak synergy between actors involved in land governance in Africa;
- Insufficient land opportunities for young people in Africa;
- Insufficient protection of vulnerable groups including women, youth, Indigenous Peoples;
- weak application of governance tools due to a low level of information of the populations as to their usefulness;
- Poverty.

In terms of **opportunities**,

- Existence of strategic plans of several land governance actors;

- Dynamism of land governance actors;
- Land reforms underway in some countries;
- The openness of TFPs to support initiatives to promote land governance that is favourable to youth.

In terms of **threats**,

- Land crime (land grabbing, dispossession...)
- Insufficient financial resources;
- Poor communication and lack of transparency in land governance;
- Conflicts of interest between members of the platform;
- Insufficient commitment of members of the land platform;
- Lack of member interest in common issues.

The main problem that emerges is the insufficiency of policies and practices favorable to pro-youth land governance. For this reason, the platform has set itself as the main logic of intervention to promote inclusive governance of land resources centered on young people in Africa. To do this, 3 main strategic axes have been identified as priority axes for the platform:

Axis 1: Improve the expertise and commitment of young people in the defense and protection of land rights.

Axis 2: Strengthen the effective participation of young people in land governance at the village, local, national and regional level.

Axis 3: Produce data to inform the actions of governments to make them more responsible for protecting the land rights of young people.

This platform is open to young African leaders working in the field of land governance, either as representatives of youth organizations working in this field, or as representatives of NGOs and popular organizations working in this field, such as farmers' organizations, Indigenous Peoples' organizations, women's organizations, to name a few.

To operationalize this vision, and in the governance process of the multi-stakeholder youth and land platform, several bodies will be set up and will each provide very specific specifications. These include:

- ***The Steering Committee (COPIL)*** which is the body which gives strategic orientations and is responsible for coordinating all actions which involve decision-making;
- ***From the YLMPA Secretariat:*** Facilitator of the platform, he reports to the steering committee and to the various partners after consulting the host organization;
- ***The Host organization:*** It houses the platform. The platform secretariat is attached to it;
- ***The Members of the platform:*** this Group is made up of all the members of the platform
- ***Thematic working groups:*** depending on the composition of the members and the themes covered by the platform, groups will be created to lead discussions on key issues.

The total amount of this budget is 265,100 USD for the first 3 years. These funds will be mobilized through government grants, private sector financing and also leveraging innovative financing.

1. Introduction

1.1. Context and rationale for the platform's strategic plan

The multi-stakeholder platform Youth and Land in Africa aims to bring together diverse land actors in Africa to synergize their efforts to promote youth access to land, land control, ownership and use. It aims to focus land governance on young Africans. As a youth-led youth framework, it aims to provide space for actors from government, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), international Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), the private sector, academia and representatives communities to dialogue on policies and practices aimed at improving youth integration, representation, participation and empowerment in land governance processes at all levels on the continent. The platform builds on existing initiatives on the continent and supported by a variety of strategic actors, including the African Union (AU), sub-regional economic blocs such as the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), intergovernmental organizations such as the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Land Coalition (ILC) and Landesa to name but a few. It was founded by five organizations (African Union, ILC, Landesa, IGAD and Young Initiative for Land in Africa (YILAA) which, through their technical and financial support, are working to make it operational. It is part of this process of democratic governance built on elections organized every 03 years at steering committee level.

This strategic plan is presented as a compass for the optimal functioning of this platform. Through the analysis of data collected online from the committees of the initiators and certain partner organizations via the Kobotoolbox application, bibliographic research and working meetings with the various stakeholders, this strategic plan was developed based on the baseline situation, needs analysis, intervention logic and operational planning.

1.2. Platform objectives

The main objective of the platform is to put young people at the center of land and natural resource governance in Africa. She plans to do this by:

- Provide a multi-agency coordination mechanism to organize, connect and mobilize youth engagement and representation in land governance processes at all levels in Africa.
- Strengthen youth leadership and organizational capacities to engage and influence land governance processes in Africa;
- Bridging the knowledge gap through the development of a data generation and dissemination strategy informed by ILC training sessions on youth-generated data resulting from youth indicators on land governance.
- Provide a framework for political dialogue between young people and open to the various decision-makers on the continent, including the private sector;
- Promote and advance gender justice with a particular focus on the land rights of women and indigenous communities.

2. BASELINE AND STRATEGY FORMULATION



2.1. African countries

In Africa as everywhere in the world, land is more than an economic good (CHARLIER *et al.* 2014); it is a living space integrating environmental, social, cultural and political dimensions. It emerges that access to land allows the realization of fundamental human rights; among others the right to property, freedom of establishment, the right to housing. Access to land also conditions the exercise of the right to a standard of living sufficient to ensure one's health and well-being as well as that of one's family (UDHR, 1948). This review is necessary preliminary work in the quest for a land governance system also centered on young people (ILC, Strategy 2030); it must be favorable to equitable access and efficient and sustainable use of land for the benefit of the latter.

2.1.1. Legal constraints on access to land by young people in Africa

To illustrate legal constraints on land access in Africa for young people, we analyzed case studies from the Cameroonian, Chadian and Congolese (DRC) legislation.

Cameroon: Access to land in Cameroon is governed by Ordinance No. 74-1 of July 6, 1974 establishing the land tenure system and its subsequent implementing texts. It should be noted that article 9 (a) of Decree No. 76/165 of April 27, 1976 setting the conditions for obtaining the land title, modified and supplemented by Decree No. 2005/481 of December 16 2005, limits the possibility for young people to access land ownership by means of direct registration when it provides that: "*Are entitled to request the obtaining of a land title on a dependency of the national domain which they occupy or exploit: a) Customary communities, their members or any other person of Cameroonian nationality, provided that the occupation or exploitation predates August 5, 1974, date of publication of Ordinance No. 74/1 of 06 July 1974, fixing the land tenure* . Young people with financial resources and who do not want to proceed with indirect registration (by way of concession), are therefore obliged to use nominees to satisfy the condition of development prior to August 5, 1974 or to proceed by fragmentation of a pre-existing land title.

Democratic Republic of Congo: In the DRC, upon reading the Official Journal of the DRC (2004), it appears that the relationship of men in general with land is quite particular since, the Constitution and subsequently article 53 of the Law No. 73-021 of July 20, 1973 on the general property regime, land and real estate regime and security regime as modified and supplemented by Law No. 80-008 of July 18, 1980 (it should be noted that the security regime now falls under OHADA law), clearly states that: "*the soil is the exclusive, inalienable and imprescriptible*

property of the State. » The land assets of the State therefore include the public domain and the private domain; it is only within the framework of the management of the latter that it grants temporary or perpetual concession rights to persons who request them and who meet the conditions listed by the Law. Starting from this, we can draw two conclusions; the first is that the right of ownership here is no longer absolute since it is limited to usufruct and the second is that the law does not formally restrict young people's access to land.

Chad: Pursuant to Article 4 (2) of Law No. 24 of July 22, 1967 on the regime of land ownership and customary rights, "The beneficiaries of the right of usufruct *and emphyteusis and creditors holding a promise of mortgage not paid on the due date, eight days after unsuccessful summons.*" The seemingly clear letter of the law may nevertheless raise questions; must the right of usufruct be combined with the emphyteusis for a person to claim certified land ownership? The question is all the more relevant when we know that emphyteusis is a real right of enjoyment of the property of others granted by a long-term lease (18 to 99 years) in return for the payment of a modest fee, hardly attributed to young people. Otherwise, and in the case of the unpaid mortgage creditor, nothing prevents young people with financial resources from acquiring land.

In addition, article 16 of the same law provides that: "All *customary rights are prescribed by ten years of non-exercise*". On reflection, a poor young person who has received customary land rights by inheritance (or otherwise) is more vulnerable to the withdrawal of said right due to their inability to develop it in the time available.

2.1.2. The issue of youth participation in land management in Africa

The involvement of young people in land management bodies is not prohibited, but the law does not formally prescribe it in view of customary realities. In the advisory commissions supervising the demarcation of land, only the presence of the village chief and a notable is expressly required by Cameroonian law (article 12 al. 7 of Decree No. 76/165 of April 27, 1976 setting the conditions for obtaining the land title, modified and supplemented by decree n°2005/481 of 16 December 2005). In the current state of positive law, their constant involvement would rather be due to the application of good practices favorable to the participatory management of land assets.

2.1.3. Land grabbing and youth land vulnerability in Africa

Through land grabbing young people are pushed aside by their elders through the inflation of the amounts of sharecropping contracts. Under these conditions, land markets can favor the production of “landless” rural people, forced to migrate to find work. In Niger, Diarra and Monimart (2006) show that the reduction of land holdings favors the disappearance of delegations of usage rights to women and young people. This particularly affects young girls who lose with these delegations of rights the main material support for the constitution of their social status and their protection network (through the redistribution of products from their fields).

2.1.4. Gender Issues in Land Governance in Africa

The analysis of this data shows that the methods of access to land give men control over it, while women, benefiting from more precarious and unsustainable access, are disadvantaged and exposed to all kinds of risks. not promoting optimal use of the land (ORFAO, 2022). Equality between men and women in terms of access to land ownership is thus far from being achieved and gender a distant objective in land ownership. The obstacles hindering women's access to land ownership are socio-cultural, legal, institutional and financial. Even if national legislation and texts of Islamic jurisprudence do not place any obstacle to women's access to land, social prejudices persist, depriving a large proportion of women of access to land.

Although customary rights must allow access to land for any person or household that finds itself in the need to work the land, this reality has tended to change for several years. It has always been more difficult, if not impossible, for women to become landowners, even before the growing phenomenon of land grabbing. In fact, women mainly depend on men or their families to access a plot of land that they could cultivate for their own purposes. Their marital status largely determines the conditions of access to said plots in their families of origin and alliance. When single, women generally participate in the agricultural work of their family's land, while when they reach the status of married women, they depend on the generosity of their husband and their new family to access a plot of land (Koné , 2011, quoted by Popescu , 2017).

2.1.5. Climate Change and land issues for young people in Africa

Climate change has been a determining factor in the inter-community land dispute between farmers, herders and fishermen in the countries of sub-Saharan Africa. It should be noted that these conflicts have intensified since the increasing drying up of rivers such as the Lake Chad

basin, the Niger basin, etc. The extreme climatic events with which climate change is associated (floods, droughts, rise in sea level) in Africa represent factors for the decline in the fertility of cultivable space as well as its reduction. As in many other African countries, Niger is going through a period of land tenure turbulence (Niang *et al.*, 2015; Sy *et al.*, 2013; Koopman, 2012; CONGAD, 2012; Faye, 2011).

Land has not only become a limited resource, but it is the object of covetousness and speculation. Residential areas continue to eat away at land around towns, while in rural areas, climatic upheavals strongly contribute to the degradation of arable land. In Senegal for example, all the agroecological zones constituting the national space are exposed to these threats, but they are more accentuated in coastal zones such as the Saloum delta where the destruction of the estuarine ecosystems of the zone is combined with salinization. cultivation land. This results in a reduction in space and at the same time an exacerbation of situations of land exclusion affecting young people (Dimé and Fall, 2018).

2.1.6. Youth access to finance to secure their land rights

Despite the land reforms undertaken in Africa, many young people in their countries do not benefit from funding to secure their land rights. In Zimbabwe, after the land reform, young people were neither trained nor technically or financially supported to secure their land rights (Legall, L. and F. Brondeau , 2012).

There are, however, financial mechanisms for securing the land rights of local communities, but these do not specifically target young people. They include all social categories. Among these mechanisms is the CLARIFI project, which is led by the Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI) and *Campaign for Nature* (C4N). The design and implementation of CLARIFI is guided by an advisory board comprised of Indigenous and community rights holders as well as RRI and C4N partners. The project will mobilize and deploy public and private funds to strengthen the legal recognition of the rights of Indigenous Peoples, Afro-descendant peoples and local communities, as well as their efforts to strengthen the conservation of natural resources, traditional livelihoods and the gender justice.

In West Africa, land tenure security is rather guaranteed by state institutions. Niger and Mali issue Agricultural Exploitation Permits to farmers (Florence Brondeau, 2014). Senegal and Burkina-Faso have opted for land rights registration programs. However, Rwanda, Ethiopia and Madagascar are engaged in a certification process that is less demanding in terms of legal and technical procedures.

In Central Africa and West Africa, there is private financing, intended for young people under 35, which is nevertheless restricted by regulations which limit investments and the entry of the private sector into the sectors which serve the small farmers (International Fund for Agricultural Development Report on Rural Development 2016: Promoting an inclusive transformation of the rural world).

- Insufficient land opportunities for young people in Africa;
- Youth tenure insecurity
- Youth food insecurity
- Insufficient political commitment to youth-centred land governance.

2.2. Resources and potentialities

In the implementation of this platform, several existing resources and potentialities are to be capitalized:

- **Plurality of actors' sectors of activity**

As can already be seen from the data in the figure below, the various actors identified work in various sectors relating to the land issue.

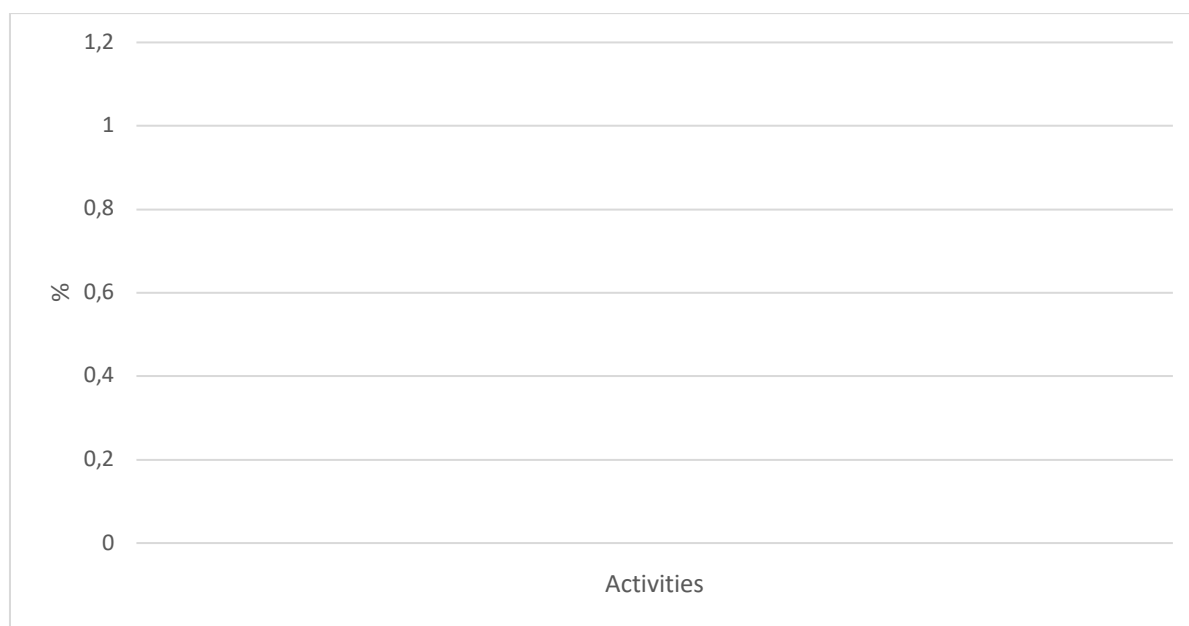
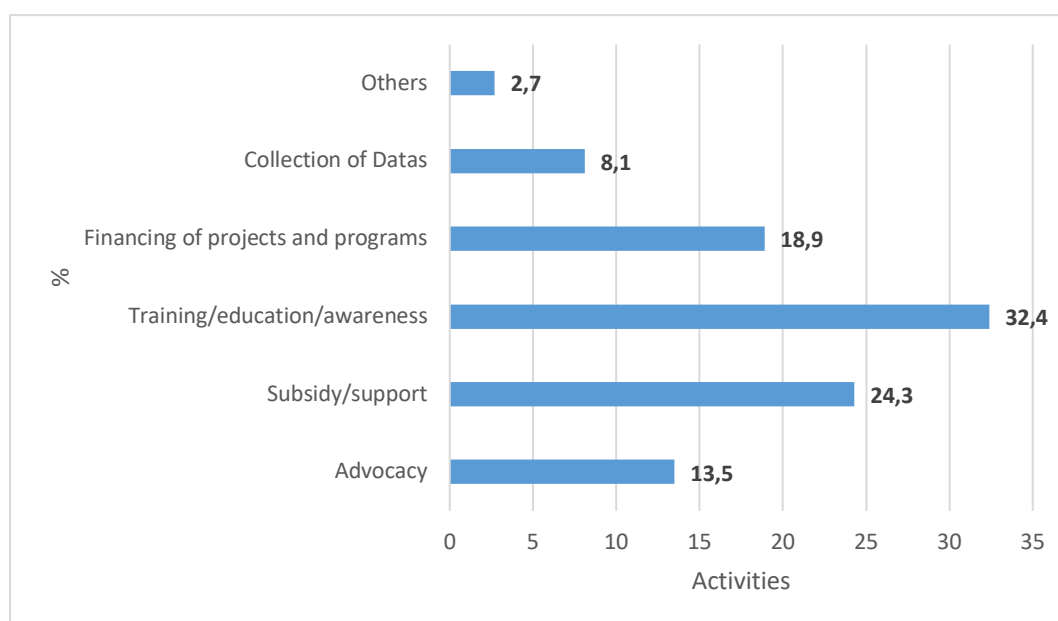


Figure 2. Percentage of respondents according to the activity sectors of the structure

On reading this figure, it can be noted that seven sectors of activity carried out by the actors of the platform have been identified, the most important of which is training on land issues, practiced by 88% of respondents. These different axes can be capitalized on in setting up the platform.

- **Professional experience of actors to capitalize on**

Another important element to take into account in the available potential is the noted experience of the various land actors present in the various African countries in specific areas to be capitalized on, particularly in the area of training/awareness, data collection, financing of projects and programs, advocacy, etc. The figure below presents this reality on the basis of the data obtained from the various actors:



Source: Field survey, March 2023 . AJEF-Cameroon

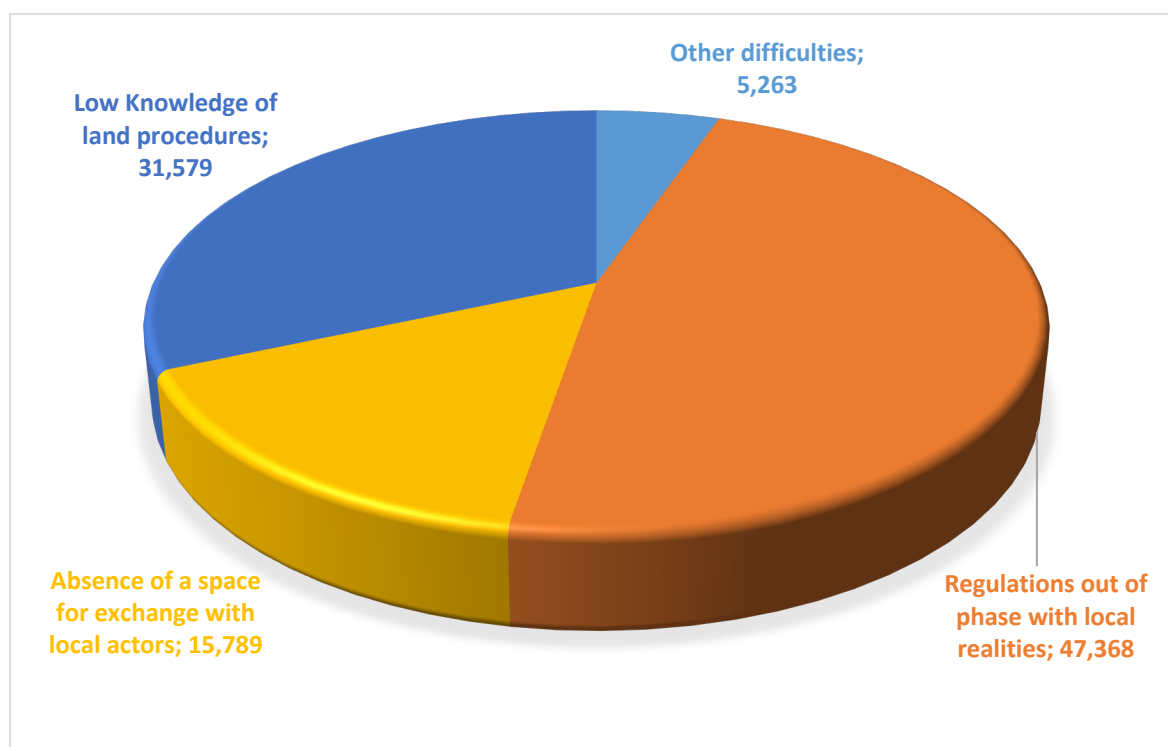
Figure 3. Opinion (%) of stakeholders on the activities already carried out by structures to facilitate access to land for young people and women

Concerning the concrete actions of the structures surveyed in the field, with a view to facilitating the access of young people and women to land, Figure 3 shows that the majority of actions (32.4%) from the actors surveyed come under the training, education and awareness. As an example, with the Co-Impact-funded Agricultural Systems Change initiative, Landesa is partnering with One Acre Fund to transform food systems and create a more gender-equitable future for African smallholder farmers in Kenya and Rwanda. Landesa will partner with government and other stakeholders to strengthen the land rights of young farmers, increase agricultural assets, and work to uproot social norms that deny women and youth equal rights to land (Landesa, 2022). It is also to be part of this same logic of training, education and awareness that the AUC-ECA-BAD consortium (2010) considers that better development and increased productivity of land requires that the rights tenure of women and youth be strengthened through a variety of mechanisms, including the enactment of legislation enabling women and youth to

claim land documents, both within and outside matrimonial for women. In this process, training, education and awareness appear as elements on which it is advisable to dwell.

2.3. Limits, obstacles and risks

Like any conceptual act, the development of the strategic plan of the youth and land multi-stakeholder platform in Africa is not free of limits, obstacles or even less risks. The data collected from the actors concerned by this study, mainly (47.37%) highlighted the risks of a disconnect between the regulations highlighted by the platform and local realities (Figure 4).



Source: Field survey, March 2023. AJEF-Cameroon

Figure 4. Opinion (%) of respondents on the difficulties encountered in relation to land

3. NEEDS ANALYSIS AND FORMULATION OF PROJECT IDEAS

The table below summarizes the most salient elements of current land governance in Africa. The data from field investigations are classified according to whether they constitute assets, weaknesses, risks or potential for Africa. Adaptations have been made to the SWOT tool to reflect the situation in Africa in the most useful way possible.

Table 1. SWOT Analysis of Land Governance in Africa

Strengths	Weaknesses
Existence of a diversity of actors with varied profiles in various countries in Africa The texts in force seem to be concerned that everyone is able to use the land, even if they do not own it; Taking into account the land governance contexts of different countries in Africa Professional experience of land actors	Poor knowledge of Land procedures Difficulty of access to land to carry out activities by young people, including the young girl Insufficient space for exchanges with the main actors involved in land Regulations out of step with local realities The weight of habits and customs Bad policy of regional representativeness Pro-youth land insecurity Food insecurity Insufficient political commitment to people-centred land governance Weak synergy between actors involved in land governance in Africa Insufficient Land Opportunities for Youth in Africa Insufficient protection of vulnerable groups including women, youth, Indigenous Peoples Weak application of governance tools due to a low level of information of the populations as to their usefulness Poverty.
Opportunities	Threat

Existence of Strategic Plans of several land governance actors Dynamism of land governance actors Ongoing land reforms in some countries	Land crime Insufficient financial resources Poor communication and lack of transparency in land governance Conflicts of interest between members of the platform Insufficient commitment of members of the land platform Lack of member interest in common issues
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Table 2. Analysis of problems/formulation of needs

central problem	Relevant causes			Main effects	Needs/ project ideas identified
	Primaries	Secondary	Tertiary		
Land vulnerability of young Africans	Low expertise of young people in the field of land	Low awareness among young people	- Insufficient space for land learning exchange (seminars/workshop/conferences, etc.) on land; - Insufficiency of training centers specializing in land; - Absence of specific training curricula on land in public and private training establishments / centres.	Underdevelopment Youth underemployment Poverty Abuse of all kinds	- Support for all education and awareness initiatives for youth on land governance - Support workshops, seminars and Conference relative to youth access to land in Africa - Advocacy for the creation of a center of excellence and research for youth and land governance in Africa; - Capacity building of resource centers to improve accessibility and availability of land-related and land-generated information resources for use in youth-friendly decision-making - Production of awareness-raising materials on the land rights of young people (guides, brochures, etc.); - Dissemination of product supports; youth sensitization webinars/seminars on land rights; - Documentation of the impacts of youth awareness activities on their rights

central problem	Relevant causes			Main effects	Needs/ project ideas identified
	Primaries	Secondary	Tertiary		
		Weak synergy between youth organizations working on the land issues	- inefficiency of exchange frameworks between organizations working in the field of land tenure - Weak organization and structuring of young people - Absence of a land coalition in some African countries - Regulations out of step with local realities		- YLMPA 's partner network of new youth organizations working on land in Africa - institutional capacity building of YLMPA member youth organizations - Support for the establishment of national partnerships to facilitate peer learning, shape the narrative and move towards the recognition of land as a human right; - The revitalization of virtual frameworks for sharing the experiences of organizations of young members; - Advocacy for youth entities within national land coalitions and other regional platforms; - The organization of an annual General Assembly of YLMPA; - The empowerment of young people in the activities of the platform, etc. - Support for the development of new models to analyze youth and land governance in Africa
			Ignorance of international mechanisms		Support for youth organizations to popularize the provisions of the African Union Declarations on Land governance in Africa.

central problem	Relevant causes			Main effects	Needs/ project ideas identified
	Primaries	Secondary	Tertiary		
	Insufficiency of policies and practices favorable to pro-youth land governance	Unsupportive legal framework in many countries	Less formulation of policies and laws and participation in decision-making processes limited the youth access to land		- Assessment of the land rights situation of young people in African countries covered by the platform ; - Development of position notes on the land situation of young people in target countries; - Organization of workshops to present the platform's position notes on youth land rights in target countries; - Dissemination of position papers; - Establishment of group of platform members in certain African countries to encourage land reforms - Development of a model policy on youth and land in Africa; - Support for the development of new models to analyze youth and land governance in Africa; - Support and advocacy for the development of manuals for the integration of youth issues into development plans, programs and activities related to land governance of African governments.
	Insufficient data to guide decision-making in the land sector	Weak development of research axes in the field of land	- Insufficient research grants related to land - Absence of specialized land libraries		- Support regional data collection on youth land access ; - grants scholarships to young researchers in land-related topics such as inequalities in land governance in Africa; climate change and access to land in Africa; family farming, etc. . Support for the establishment of regional networks for the collection, analysis and exchange of information (e.g. by strengthening electronic communication and networks for the

central problem	Relevant causes			Main effects	Needs/ project ideas identified
	Primaries	Secondary	Tertiary		
					collection and dissemination of information in real time / near real time) on emerging and re-emerging issues concerning youth and land, governance and facilities; • Creation of databases and metadata banks and information systems on youth and land governance in Africa, including the development of an integrated information system on land governance for young people; • Support for the dissemination and constant sharing of research results through the creation of digital libraries and or the organization of discussion workshops
	Weak support for youth initiatives in sustainable land management	• Low access to finance by young people	• Unavailability funds; • insufficient funds		• setting up of a support fund to finance young leaders project with a land impact; • youth training in fundraising tools; • Search for partnership and establishment of funding mechanism for youth projects to facilitate access to land; • Support for young beneficiaries of funding.
		• Lack of knowledge of procedures and mechanisms for accessing financing	• Insufficient training in project maturation; • poor support for young people		
	Climatic changes	• Pollution	• Deforestation; • Non-compliance with environmental standards;		
					• Sensitization of young people on the effects of climate change; • Training of young people on the protection of the environment and the adoption of agricultural and pastoral practices that respect the environment; • Support for research on the effects of climate change in Africa and alternative solutions.

central problem	Relevant causes			Main effects	Needs/ project ideas identified
	Primaries	Secondary	Tertiary		
					• Grant for youth initiatives aimed at restoring and conserving degraded and natural landscapes
	Weak promotion of social justice and gender aspects in land governance	• Marginalization of women from vulnerable groups	• Under-education of women • Weight of habits and customs (men at the center of the family) • Weak protection of minority groups. • Weak advocacy for the defense of the rights of young people in the field of land		• Grants specific scholarships to young women working in the land sector; • Sensitization of women on land rights and procedures; • Identification and sensitization of minority populations and indigenous peoples on the land rights and procedures in force in their respective countries.

In general, and on reading this diagnostic table, it appears that the multi-stakeholder platform would like to implement activities relating to the following questions:

- Security of land rights for young people;
- The land rights of particularly vulnerable youth groups (girls, disabled youth, rural youth, stateless youth, indigenous youth, etc.)
- Advocacy for public security promoting youth access to land
- Land and Agriculture for Food Security;
- Natural resources;
- Environment and conservation;
- Land and Climate Change and Adaptation;
- Development of youth land leadership in land matters
- Conflicts over land use, etc.

4. INTERVENTION LOGIC

4.1. Logical framework

Painting 3. Problem: Land vulnerability of young Africans

	INTERVENTION LOGIC	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATOR	SOURCE OF VERIFICATION	REALIZATION ASSUMPTION
OVERALL OBJECTIVE	Reducing the land vulnerability of young Africans	Number of legal instruments, policy changes and land practices adopted for youth at local, national and international levels	Reports of YILAA Activities; Any newly adopted instrument; Any evidence of changes.	-Political stability -Security assured -Financial, Material and Human availability
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	1. Improve the expertise and commitment of youth land rights defenders	Number of youth organizations that effectively address land governance actions Number of proposals/contributions to processes and reforms on land governance made by youth organizations and regional youth platforms Number of decisions/actions taken by national public authorities in favor of youth-centred land governance	Activities report Product manuals	
	2. Encourage governments to put in place a pro-youth legal and policy framework in the area of land	Number of focal points put in place	Activities report	

	INTERVENTION LOGIC	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATOR	SOURCE OF VERIFICATION	REALIZATION ASSUMPTION
		Proportion of increase in the participation of youth organizations and young people from local communities (with an emphasis on women) in regional and local consultation frameworks Number of pleas initiated		
	3. Produce and popularize land data to guide decision-making at different levels	Number of datastores available Number of swap spaces available and functional	Activities Report	
	4. Support youth initiatives in the context of sustainable land management	Number of youth projects funded Number of youth organizations supported	Activities Report	
	5. Promoting social justice and gender aspects in land governance	Number of scholarships awarded to young women Number of women's initiatives subsidized Number of young women appointed to positions of responsibility in relation to land management	Activity Report	
RESULTS (STRATEGIC AXES)	1.1. young Africans master the procedures and mechanisms for access to land	Number of organizational diagnoses of youth organizations carried out Number of capacity building workshops organized Number of youth representatives in organizations and at community level who have improved their knowledge on land governance Number of conferences organized on land issues in Africa;	Guide to good land practices for young people	
	1.2. Genuine collaboration exists between youth organizations working on the land	Number of youth organizations working to promote land governance in Africa; Number of youth organizations mobilized; Number of consultation meetings held and supported by the platform	Activity Report	

	INTERVENTION LOGIC	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATOR	SOURCE OF VERIFICATION	REALIZATION ASSUMPTION
		Number of training curricula developed and applied in the land sector Number of exchange spaces set up and operational		
	2.1. A legal and political framework promoting access to land by youth is put in place in African countries	Number and types of joint advocacy actions carried out by youth organizations and community youth, including in favor of women	Activity Report	
	3.1. Updated multi-scalar information on the land situation in African countries is produced	Number of libraries created and accessible to all Number of dissertations / thesis / articles available Number of databases created and populated.	Activity Report	
	4.1. youth participate in the restoration of land and the preservation of ecosystems	Number of workshops and seminars organized; Number of youth initiatives implemented in favor of sustainable land management, environmental preservation or restoration of agrosystems.	Activity Report	
	4.2. youth have access to support adapted to funding	Number of youth organizations that have received funding	Activities Report	
	5.1. land governance in Africa is inclusive	Number of initiatives supported by and for women Number of pilot projects for acquiring and securing land rights for women Number of women responsible in areas related to land.	Activities Report	
ACTIVITIES				Cost (US Dollars)
1.1.1. Support for all education and awareness initiatives for youth on land governance		Amount granted for support	Report(s) produced	2,000
1.1.2. Support workshops, seminars and Conference relative to youth access to land in Africa ;		Amount granted for support	Report(s) produced	3,000
1.1.3. Advocacy for the creation of a center of excellence for youth and land governance in Africa Advocacy for the creation of a center of excellence and research for youth and land governance in Africa ;		Number of centers supported	Report(s) produced	2,500
Subtotal				7,500
1.2.1. Extension of Platform's partner network		Number of new Platform partners	Report(s) produced	1,000
Training and capacity building of the platform members (Steering committee and others)		Number of workshops/seminars organized	Seminar/workshop report	5,000
1.2.2. Support for the establishment of national partnerships to facilitate peer learning, shape the narrative		Amount granted for support	Report(s) produced	3,000

	INTERVENTION LOGIC	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATOR	SOURCE OF VERIFICATION	REALIZATION ASSUMPTION
	and move towards the recognition of land as a human right;			
	1.2.3. Online learning exchange program (peer and peer experience sharing)	Number of meetings organized	Activity report(s)	1,000
	1.1.4 Organization of an annual General Assembly of YLMPA;	Number of participants	Meeting minutes	3,500
	Subtotal			13,500
	2.1.1. Participation of Data4youth Land Access program	Number of reports	Report(s) produced	3,000
	2.1.2. Development of position papers on the land situation of young people in the target countries;	Number of position papers developed	Report(s) produced	2,000
	2.1.3. Organization of workshops to present the position papers of the platform on youth land rights in the target countries;	Number of position paper presentation workshops organized	Report(s) produced	7,000
	2.1.4. Dissemination of position papers;	Number of channels used for broadcasting	Report(s) produced	1,000
	2.1.5. Establishment of Platform members Group in some African countries to encourage and support national land reform	Number of new coalitions set up	Report(s) produced	1,000
	2.1.6. Development of a model policy on youth and land in Africa;	Number of reports	Report(s) produced	3,000
	2.1.7. Support for the development of new models to analyze youth and land governance in Africa;	Support cost	Report(s) produced	2,000
	2.1.8. Support for the development of manuals for mainstreaming youth issues into African governments' land governance related development plans, programs and activities.	Number of manuals produced	Product Manual(s)	4,000
	2.1.9. Advocacy for youth entities within national land coalitions;	Number of pleas made	Report(s) produced	1,000
	2.1.10. Support for youth organizations in the implementation of the provisions of the African Union Declaration on Land Issues and Challenges in Africa	Amount granted for support	Report(s) produced	1,000
	Subtotal			25,000
	3.1.1. Support for the production of regional and continental inventories of youth land governance and land in Africa;	Number of books listed	Report(s) produced	10,000
	3.1.2. Grants scholarships to 100 young researchers in themes related to land such as inequalities in land governance in Africa; climate change and access to land in Africa; family farming, etc.	Number and amounts of scholarships awarded	Report(s) produced	100,000
	Subtotal			110,000
	3.2.1. Creation of data banks and metadata banks and information systems on youth and land governance in Africa, including the development of an integrated information system on land governance for young people;	Number of databases available	Activity report(s)	7,000
	3.2.2. Support for the dissemination and constant sharing of research results through the creation of digital libraries and or the organization of exchange workshops	Amount awarded for the grant	Activity report(s)	2,000
	Subtotal			9,000
	4.1.1. Grant for youth initiatives aimed at restoring and conserving degraded and natural landscapes,	Amount awarded for the grant	Activity report(s)	3,000
	4.1.2. Sensitization of young people on the effects of climate change;	Number of awareness campaigns organized	Awareness campaigns report	1,000
	4.1.3. Training of young people on the protection of the environment and the adoption of agricultural and pastoral practices that respect the environment;	Number of training workshops/seminars organized	Activity report(s)	1,000

	INTERVENTION LOGIC	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATOR	SOURCE OF VERIFICATION	REALIZATION ASSUMPTION
4.1.4. Support for research on the effects of climate change in Africa and alternative solutions.		Amount mobilized to finance research projects	Activity report(s)	5,000
Subtotal				10,000
4.2.1. youth training in fundraising tools		Number of training workshops/seminars organized	Activity report(s)	2,000
4.2.2. Establishment of a fund to support the financing of young leader's project in the sector;		Amount mobilized to finance youth projects	Activity report(s)	50,000
4.2.3. Support for young recipients of funding.		Number of young people supervised	Activity report(s)	5,000
Subtotal				57,000
5.1.1. Specific granting of scholarships to young women working in the land sector;		Number of women who received a scholarship	Activity Report	25,000
5.1.2. Raising awareness among women on land rights and procedures;		Number of awareness campaigns organized	Awareness campaigns report	1,000
5.1.3. Identification and awareness-raising of minority populations and indigenous peoples on land rights and procedures in force in their respective countries.		Number of awareness campaigns organized	Awareness campaigns report	2,000
Subtotal				28,000
Total				260 000

Source: field survey, March 2023. AJEF-Cameroon

4.2. Platform vision

The platform is open to young African leaders working in the field of land governance, either as representatives of youth organizations working in this field or as representatives of NGOs and grassroots organizations working in this field, such as farmers' organizations, Indigenous Peoples' organizations, women's organizations, to name a few. The platform is also open to young researchers working on land issues or related topics. Furthermore, as can be seen in the figure below, this multi-stakeholder platform should make it possible to achieve a certain number of indicators.



Figure 5. Elements of the multi-stakeholder platform

4.3. Membership plan / terms

The Youth and Land Multi-Stakeholder Platform in Africa aims to bring together the different stakeholders so that they can synergize their efforts to promote access, use, control and ownership of land by young people in Africa.

It provides a forum for actors from government, youth civil society organizations and youth-led CSOs, NGOs, international organizations, the private sector, academia to dialogue on policies and practices aimed at improving integration, representation, control and use of land in Africa.

The project aims to develop and implement practices to improve the inclusion, representation, participation and empowerment of youth in land governance processes at all levels.

In this momentum, the formulation of relevant recommendations for the improvement of the framework conditions and land policies is sought, at the same time as lobbying for a better land policy/monitoring of the effective implementation, or even feedback/disclosure of relevant land information.

First article. Commitment of the Committee of Initiators, the Steering Committee and the Host Organization/Permanent Secretariat of the Platform

1. The African Union, IGAD, ILC, Landesa and YILAA are the five initiating members of the platform; they constitute the **Committee of initiators**.
2. The **Steering Committee**, for its part, is an essential management tool for the Platform. He monitors the progress of the Platform's activities, ensures their compliance with the overall vision of the Initiative and takes the strategic decisions necessary to achieve the objectives in concert with the Permanent Secretariat.
3. YILAA houses the **Permanent Secretariat** (Host Organization) to ensure the mission and overall vision of the members. The operational functioning of the platform is ensured by YILAA which regularly reports to the Steering Committee. The host organization is designated by a vote of members every two years (mandate renewable once).

Article 2. Membership of the platform

1. All potential members must submit their application after the host organization has launched a call for applications.
2. Access to the platform is reserved for legal persons attesting to a legal existence.
3. Affiliates can be actors from government, CSOs, international NGOs, the private sector, academia and civil society with experience on land.
4. Anyone wishing to join the platform must demonstrate an undeniable interest in land issues certified by the production of a relevant activity report or the production of any other reliable document.

Article 3. Commitment of members to the platform

1. **Ethics:** Member organizations are invited to adopt responsible behavior aimed at promoting cohesion, communion and understanding within the Platform. Professional relations and scientific debates are desired to bring the Platform to life. Contradictions must be argued and done with courtesy and respect. Debates should be constructive and contribute to the formulation of relevant recommendations for the improvement of youth-friendly land laws and policies.
2. **Participation:** Member organizations are invited to actively participate in the various activities organized on/by the Platform. They provide support which may be technical,

logistical, didactic or financial depending on the needs of the activity concerned and their ability to contribute.

3. Collaboration: As the platform is also a space of opportunities, members undertake to collaborate in good faith and to support each other in the activities organized by the platform, which activities must be based on the expectations of the parties.

Article 4. Platform content management

1. The content of the platform must be oriented towards advocacy for better consideration of young people in land policies and laws in Africa.
2. The managers of the platform produce the content on their initiative or that of the members of the platform with the objective, among other things, of creating a community of good practices oriented towards debates on current land issues.
3. As the platform is also a tool for collecting data on land (specifically in connection with youth), hyperlinks giving access to web pages other than those on the platform may be allowed. However, the hypertext links set up within the framework of the platform in the direction of other resources present on the Internet network, and in particular towards partners, are the subject of prior, written and express authorization from the steering committee of the platform.
4. Users are formally informed that the sites they can access via hypertext links do not belong to the Initiative, which nevertheless has the obligation to cross-check all sources before their disclosure.
5. Any proposal, remark or suggestion concerning the platform must be notified to the managers of the Platform, in order to preserve the harmony and the vision of the Initiative.

Article 5. Sanctions

1. Violators of the operating rules of this platform are gradually exposed to the following sanctions.
 - Muting, the duration of which is proportional to the seriousness of the act committed.
 - Temporary exclusion, from the first recidivism, the duration of which depends on the seriousness of the act perpetrated, left to the discretion of the Steering Committee.
 - Permanent exclusion in the event of persistence of the faulty behavior after the temporary exclusion.

2. Conversely, a member who wishes to withdraw from the Platform can do so by letter (motivated or not) addressed to the Steering Committee. They take together and within a reasonable time, measures to preserve the current activities in which the outgoing member was involved.

4.4. Platform governance plan

The governance structures of the **YLMPA** are:

a- The steering committee: it is currently made up of four member organizations of the platform (CNCR, RECONCILE, AFRA, JVE). It is called upon to open up to the founding organizations of the platform. To this end, it is envisaged that each of these organizations appoint a young representative who will sit on the steering committee. However, this member will have an advisory role. The steering committee is the body that gives strategic directions and is responsible for coordinating all actions that involve decision-making. It will meet on average three times a year on an ordinary basis. But it can meet in an extraordinary way when convened by the president to discuss urgent problems;

b- The YLMPA secretariat: it is coordinated by a full-time staff: a facilitator, and if necessary, depending on the scope of the activities to be carried out, actors of various profiles supporting the facilitator: hostesses, communicators, reporters, translators, and other consultants. The facilitator can work at the headquarters of the organization or remotely. The facilitator reports to the steering committee and to the various partners after consulting the host organization;

c- The host organization: it houses the platform. The secretariat of the platform is attached to it. The secretariat receives technical and administrative support from the host organization. The host organization gives an opinion on the work carried out by the secretariat to the steering committee;

d- The platform: it is made up of all the members of the platform. It meets on average twice a year as part of member capacity building, planning and advocacy activities;

e- Thematic working groups: depending on the composition of the members and the themes covered by the platform, groups will be created. These groups will benefit from the funding of the platform to carry out the actions in their respective countries. The secretariat coordinates the action of the thematic groups;

f- The mandate of the members of the Steering Committee of the platform: the members of the Steering Committee of the Youth and Land Multi-stakeholder Platform in Africa are elected for a 3-year term renewable once.

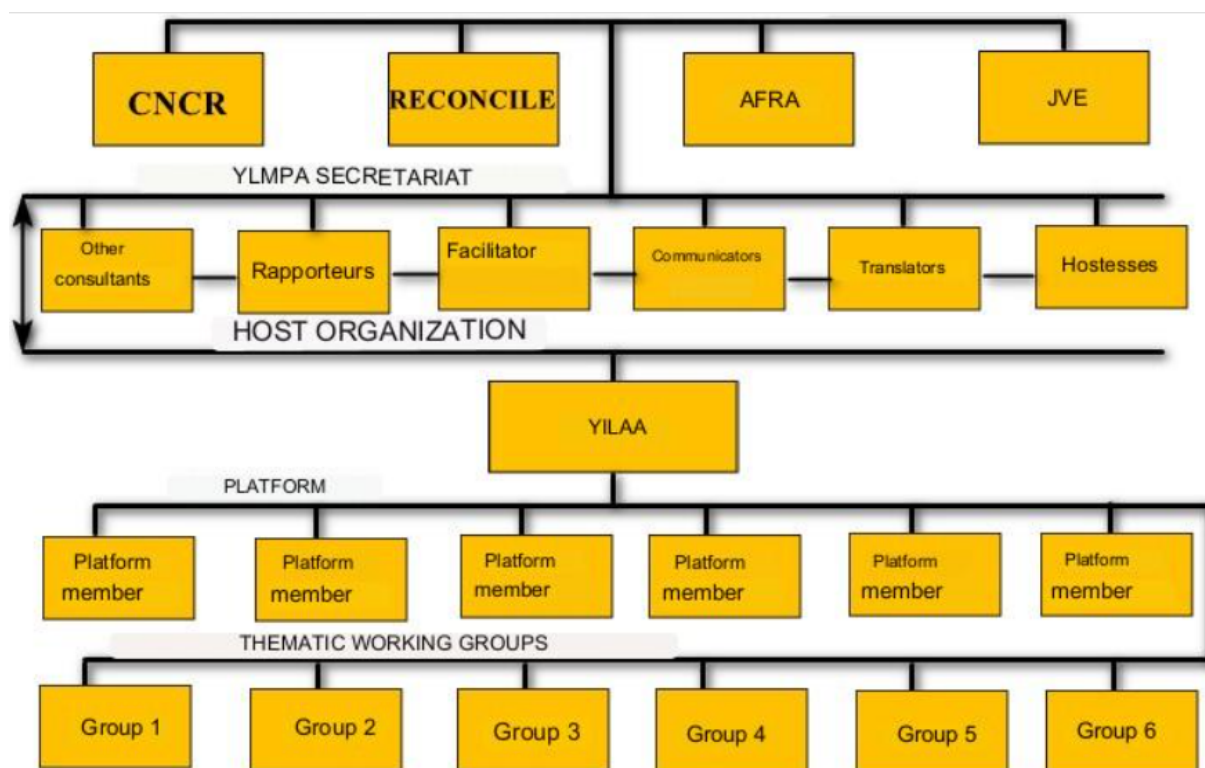
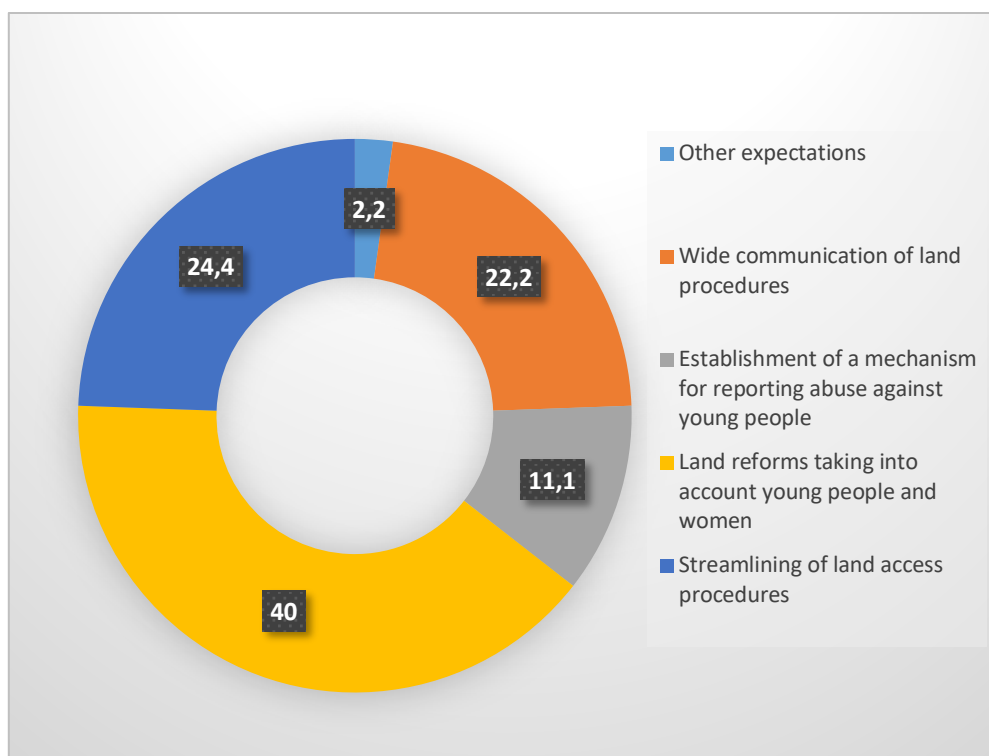


Figure 6. Platform flowchart

With regard to the measures proposed by the various actors for a better consideration of the priorities of the platform, figure 7 below represents some measures envisaged:



Source: field survey, March 2023. AJEF-Cameroon

Figure 7. Some measures envisaged for better consideration of priorities

On reading this figure, it can be noted that for better consideration of the priorities of the platform, the main measures to be considered aim to conduct advocacy for land reform taking young people into account (40%); advocate for the simplification of procedures for access to land ownership (25%); Establish mechanisms for denouncing abuses against young people (11%), etc.

5. OPERATIONAL PLANNING



5.1. Action plan

The implementation of the activities of the strategic plan will be done gradually according to the availability of means. Some activities must be carried out in the short term. Others in the medium term and still others in the long term. The table below summarizes the various activities and their deadlines.

Table 4. Implementation plan for platform activities between 2023 and 2026

Activities	Due date	Priority according to impact
YLMPA's partner network of new youth organizations working on land in Africa;	Short term	1
Organization of an annual General Assembly of YLMPA;	Short term	2
Establishment of a space for exchange between young people around land issues;	Short term	3
Establishment of platform group members in certain African countries to encourage and support national land reforms;	Short term	4
Support regional Data collection on youth access to Land in Africa;	Short term	5
Creation of databases and metadata banks and information systems on youth and land governance in Africa, including the development of an integrated information system on land governance for young people;	Short term	6
Support for the dissemination and sharing of research results through the creation of digital libraries and or the organization of discussion workshops;	Middle term	7
Training and capacity building of platform members on Fundraising and strategies of Resources mobilization;	Middle term	8
Support for the implementation of youth education and awareness strategies on land issues in Africa;	Middle term	9
Advocacy, education and sensitization of indigenous youth and others vulnerable groups;	Short term	10
Sensitization of women on land rights and procedures;	Short term	11
Grant for youth initiatives aimed at restoring and conserving degraded and natural landscapes;	Middle term	12
Support for the development of youth-friendly frameworks for regional and continental collaboration in the field of land governance through the organization of workshops, seminars and conferences);	Short term	13
Sensitization of young people on the effects of climate change;	Short term	14

Activities	Due date	Priority according to impact
Support for the establishment of national partnerships to facilitate peer learning, shape the narrative and move towards the recognition of land as a human right;	Short term	15
Revitalization of virtual frameworks for sharing the experiences of organizations of young members;	Short term	16
Development of position notes on the land situation of young people in target countries;	Middle term	17
Organization of workshops to present the platform's position notes on youth land rights in target countries;	Middle term	18
Dissemination of position papers;	Middle term	19
Advocacy for youth entities within national land coalitions;	Middle term	20
Training of young people on the protection of the environment and the adoption of agricultural and pastoral practices that respect the environment;	Short term	21
Advocacy for the creation of a center of excellence and research for youth and land governance in Africa;	Middle term	22
institutional capacity building of YLMPA member youth organizations;	Short term	23
Grants scholarships to 100 young researchers in themes related to land such as inequalities in land governance in Africa; climate change and access to land in Africa; family farming, etc.	Long term	24
Support for the development of new models to analyze youth and land governance in Africa;	Middle term	25
Development of a model policy on youth and land in Africa;	Long term	26
Support for research on the effects of climate change in Africa and alternative solutions;	Middle term	27
Support for young recipients of funding;	Long term	28
Support for the development of manuals for mainstreaming youth issues into African governments' land governance related development plans, programs and activities;	Long term	29
Support for youth organizations in the implementation of the provisions of the African Union Declaration on Land Issues and Challenges in Africa.	Short term	30

NB: Short term = first years; Medium term = first 3 years; long term = first 5 years

Source: field survey, March 2023. AJEF-Cameroon

5.2. Human resources

For the implementation of the strategy, human resources are made up of the staff of YILAA as the host organization and all the members of the platform.

5.3. Resource mobilization plan

The platform's Resource Mobilization Plan aims to mobilize resources (technical and financial) for the implementation of activities. This current plan is focused on three main pillars supported by enhanced joint resource mobilization as well as effective platform communications:

- **Support, strengthen and mobilize funding from government donors**

Continued funding from current donors will be essential to sustain the platform. Efforts will focus on strengthening communications on the contributions and added value of the activities of the strategic plan. Existing donor-specific roadmaps will be strengthened and additional roadmaps will be developed to better articulate specific areas of collaboration for the partnership.

- **Develop financing from the private sector**

Private sector fundraising includes funds from corporations, foundations and individual donations. Private development grants finance a significant portion of the platform's operating expenses. The platform will view private sector fundraising as a strategic growth opportunity and align internal capabilities and resources to support this opportunity.

- **Leverage other partnerships and innovative financing.**

The platform receives additional funding from various partnerships with intergovernmental and development institutions, as well as pooled funding arrangements. The plan identified a number of opportunities to modestly increase funding for these partnerships. In addition, the plan identified several longer-term opportunities to generate new financing from innovative financing sources such as private impact investment (Impact Investment). The Secretariat will strengthen and focus capacity to support stronger partnerships and will implement detailed roadmaps for partners while developing new, innovative sources of funding.

5.4. Gender Policy

One of the priorities of the multi-stakeholder platform is to promote gender equality in land governance in Africa. The platform's policy aims to encourage the involvement of young girls at all levels of the multi-stakeholder platform. This will be for the platform to provide equitable opportunities for learning, decision-making and leadership, while ensuring a safe and inclusive environment for their participation. Also, the platform will have to set up awareness-raising and capacity-building programs specifically aimed at young girls, while ensuring that they have access to training, mentoring and networking opportunities to develop their skills and confidence in them. It will also be necessary to encourage their active participation in decision-making processes, by giving them a voice and equal decision-making power. The goal here is to create an inclusive environment where young girls can fully contribute to land governance in Africa. In addition to awareness-raising and capacity-building programs, platform actors should work closely with local communities, civil society organizations and governments to foster the involvement of young girls in land governance. This will involve encouraging the creation of safe and inclusive spaces where they can express themselves freely, share their ideas and contribute to discussions on land policies. It will also be necessary to ensure that young girls have access to resources and economic opportunities related to land management, in order to strengthen their autonomy and their active participation in this field. Furthermore, in its policy, the platform should also work to eliminate barriers that limit their participation, such as gender-based discrimination, limited access to education and resources, as well as restrictive social norms. This will require working with local and international partners to mobilize financial resources to support initiatives to empower young girls in land governance. It will also be necessary to closely monitor the progress made and adjust the strategies according to the needs and challenges identified.

The platform, should also, in the implementation of its policy, work in collaboration with partners to develop applications and online platforms that allow young girls to share their experiences, ideas and concerns.

Finally, the platform should ensure that local communities and political decision-makers are made more aware of the importance of involving young girls in land governance, in order to create an environment conducive to their active and meaningful participation. We strongly believe that involving young girls is key to promoting equitable and sustainable land governance in Africa.

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