AFRICA LEARNING EXCHANGE ON RIGHTS AND CONSERVATION
KENYA, FROM 2ND – 6TH OCTOBER, 2023

@TenureFacility @ILCAfrique @CLAN_Kenya
Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Africa Regional Learning Exchange on Rights and Conservation! This five-days event, co-organized by the Community Land Action Now! (CLAN!), the International Land Coalition (ILC) and the Tenure Facility (TF), brings together in Kenya selected partners and members from a range of different countries in Africa, working to advance communities’ tenure security.

We come together under the overall objective to learn, be inspired, discuss, and coordinate on how to best advance different aspects of rights and conservation in the context of Africa. Dedicated spaces will be created to discuss and learn about effective strategies and approaches to advance Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IP & LC) rights to land and territories and get recognition for their role as stewards and guardians of nature. We will be exploring threats and failures as well as what true, rights-based conservation and restoration can look like, effectively protecting livelihoods and biodiversity, while increasing resilience to all sorts of stress. The exchange will also offer you a unique opportunity to listen and engage with our host communities on their daily struggle to secure tenure rights.

It is not a coincidence we find ourselves in Kenya. This is a country with a solid legal framework that recognizes IP & LC land or use rights and with a wide range of pilot initiatives involving communities in conservation practices and management. Indeed, the gap between official recognition and implementation of the law still exists; under fortress conservation practices, many communities have been dispossessed of their ancestral lands. At the same time, many actors are challenging this approach, promoting new paradigms that recognize communities’ rights. Kenya will be our starting point to compare different cases and share on right-based conservation experiences across Africa.

We believe there is much that can be learned from each other.

We look forward to welcoming you!

The Organizing Committee
Loss of biodiversity around the planet has emerged as one of the major global challenges to mankind, along with climate change. In December 2022, governments and the international community reached a landmark agreement to guide global action on nature conservation through 2030 at the COP15 in Montreal, Canada. The post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework aims at addressing biodiversity loss, restoring ecosystems, and protecting indigenous rights. The plan includes concrete measures to halt and reverse biodiversity loss, including putting 30% of the planet and 30% of degraded ecosystems under protection by 2030. The 30x30 agenda or target is being framed as a measure to provide stronger recognition to IP & LC conserved territories and areas (ICCAs) and Other Effective Conservation Measures (OECMs) by communities as part of protected areas’ management.

However, many human rights actors and environmental defenders are concerned about the 30x30 target as it is heavily pushed by the same actors that have dominated fortress conservation practice to this date. The fear is that green grabs, human rights violations, and food insecurity will increase, while the underlying causes of biodiversity loss receive little attention. On a more optimistic note, other conservation and development actors see opportunities in using the new biodiversity agenda, with its recognition of the rights of IP & LC, for more equitable benefit sharing and rights-based development outcomes. With the Africa Regional Learning Exchange, we intend to explore what the new biodiversity agenda will or can imply in an African context.

Kenya offers plenty of scope for learning: on the roles of pastoralists, communities, and IPs in the management of natural resources and forests, as well as in ecosystem restoration, climate change adaptation and conflict management. Women play important roles in such efforts, with potential for more if properly supported.

The country has a long history of state-controlled Protected Areas and there are plenty of pilots involving communities in conservation practices and management, including the sharing of revenues. There is a solid legal framework that recognizes IP & LC land or use rights. The 2016 Community Land Act, in fact, provides recognition, protection and registration of community land, while the Forest Conservation and Management Act (2016) allows communities to co-manage forests along with the Kenya Forest Service.

Despite 40% of lands in Kenya being community lands (both registered and unregistered), the implementation of the law has been slow; there is a gap between official recognition and implementation of the law, and IP & LC still suffer displacements from ancestral territories. In fact, while the 2010 constitution and the 2016 Community Land Act (CLA) legally recognize communities’ customary land rights regardless of whether they are registered or unregistered, county governments hold unregistered community lands in trust for communities until they are formally registered. The problem of unregistered land makes long-term investments to enhance local livelihoods and food security more at risk.

At the same time, about 8% of Kenya’s land mass is under some kind of formal protection, and home to several conservation areas. Well-known examples are Amboseli National Park and Maasai Mara National Reserve. Several different models of conservation co-exist across
Under the *fortress conservation* model, communities have been seen as a threat to conservation - an excuse to dispossess communities of their ancestral lands. But many actors in Kenya are challenging this approach, promoting a new paradigm that recognizes communities’ rights. They have demonstrated successful experiences of co-management of protected areas by IP & LC.

**Learning Objectives**

The learning week is intended to provide participants with a conducive environment to share experiences and learn about strategies, approaches and practices that have proven effective in advancing IP&LC rights overall, and within Protected Areas in particular, to explore community-led conservation and restoration efforts and increase climate resilience. There will also be space to discuss challenges and approaches by IP&LC as climate and environmental defenders.

The Learning Exchange will aim to:

- To explore and share **insights into the Kenyan context** and give participants a sense of current opportunities and challenges for IP & LC tenure rights in Kenya.
- To stimulate discussion and contributions from all participants on how to **advance tenure rights through collaboration and partnership**.
- To bring together TF partners and ILC members from a **range of different countries**, such as Burkina Faso, Mali, Liberia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Malawi, Madagascar, Gabon, Cameroon, Tanzania, Uganda, and Kenya, among others, and create opportunities to exchange and learn from each other.
- To further explore roles of IP & LC and their land rights for **biodiversity management, conservation, restoration, and climate resilience**. The event will bring together three thematic ILC-lead initiatives working on: IP & LC land rights, conservation, and climate; locally managed ecosystems and, environmental defenders.
**01 SUN**

**Arrival in Nakuru county.**
International participants arrive at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in Nairobi. Transfer to Nakuru county. Spend the night at the Lake Naivasha Resort.

**02 MON**

**Community visits**
Participants will gather in 4 groups and travel to their respective host communities, where they will spend the day learning from their experiences. Spend the night in a hotel close to the community area.

**03 TUE**

**Community visits continued.**
Discussion with the community in the morning.

**Travel back to the main venue**
in Naivasha in the afternoon.

**Dinner**
Dinner at the hotel and practical information about the days that will follow.

**04 WED**

**Official Opening, Kenya Day:** Plenary sessions with report back from the communities visited and deeper look into Kenya context of IP & LC tenure rights and conservation. Panels with hosting organisations, guest speakers and representatives of communities and public agencies.

**Experience Fair.**
Early evening get-together: Participants from all countries present their organisations/projects and familiarise themselves with each other.

**05 THUR**

**Break-out sessions with deep dives on Rights and Conservation.**
Participants divide in groups to share experiences and further discuss different key issues under the overarching theme of IP & LC rights and stewardship in relation to conservation, restoration, and resilience across Africa. Reflection and planning for possible follow-up collaborations.

**06 FRI**

**Skills Building Day**
Morning: Workshops and/or follow-up sessions to train skills or learn about specific challenges and how to deal with them. Space for initiative and co-creation.

**Plenary:**
Afternoon Reflection and takeaways from the week and group photo. Official closing of learning exchange Official closing of the event

**07 SAT**

**Departure of participants.**
Departure day. International participants will travel to Nairobi to go back to their country of origin. Reflection and planning for possible follow-up collaborations.
**Detailed Programme**

**Sunday 01 October: Welcome to the Africa Regional Learning Exchange!**

*Throughout the day*

Arrival in Kenya, travel to Nakuru county and check at the Lake Naivasha Resort hotel. Participants joining the community visit at Greater Maasai Mara Ecosystem (CV3) will travel directly to Narok county. Get to know each other and relax.

**Monday 02 – Tuesday 03 October: Community Visits**

All participants joining the community visits will travel to designated areas on the early morning of Monday 02 October, and have overnight stay closer to selected communities. For detailed information on the community visits, please refer to the Background Information and Logistic Note of your specific visit. On Tuesday 03 October, we will move back to the Lake Naivasha Resort to continue our learning week.

The community visits are co-organized and coordinated by members of Tenure Facility partner CLAN! and of the International Land Coalition in Kenya: Community Land Action Now! (CLAN), RECONCILE (Resource Conflict Institute), The Ogiek Peoples Development Programme (OPDP), the Kenya Wildlife Conservancy Agency (KWCA), the Indigenous Livelihood Enhancement Partners (ILEPA), the Endorois Welfare Council (EWC) and the Endorois Indigenous Women Empowerment Network (EIWEN).
CV01: Ogiek Community, East Mau, Nakuru county.
The Ogiek of Mau inhabit the Mau Forest Complex, which includes various areas in different counties, and around 40,000 members of the Ogiek community live there. The visit will highlight the positive judgement delivered by the African Court in favour of the Ogiek community, recognizing their land rights and identifying human rights violations committed against them. Participants will learn about the significance of community-based conservation and sustainable resource management, as emphasised in the judgement. The Ogiek have resorted to small-scale farming within the forest and rely on herbs from the forest as a primary source of medicine due to limited access to modern healthcare. The visit would also involve learning about the Ogiek community's legal struggle, which resulted in a positive judgement by the African Court in May 2017, recognizing their right to property and natural resources, non-discrimination, religion, culture, and development. The ruling also emphasised the role of IPs in conservation and confirmed that the Ogiek community could not be held responsible for the depletion of the Mau Forest. However, the Kenyan government's actions have put the community in further jeopardy, and the courts recommenced to their ruling in June 2022, ordering both pecuniary and non-pecuniary reparations.

CV02: Endorois Community on the shores of Lake Bogoria, Baringo county.
During the field visit to the Endorois community, participants will have the opportunity to engage with and learn from this Indigenous group facing land rights challenges. The visit will provide insights into the Endorois' rich cultural heritage and their struggle for justice. Participants will witness the community's transition from traditional pastoralism to agropastoralism, gaining an understanding of their farming practices around Lake Bogoria. The visit will shed light on the historical and ongoing struggles faced by the Endorois community. The community will present the struggles experienced during the colonial era, where their land was first taken away, and will share first-hand accounts of the community's efforts to reclaim their rights, including its legal battles at national and international level. Participants will gain a broader understanding of complex issues related to land rights, cultural preservation, and sustainable development. The Endorois community tenurial case and its intersection with rights and conservation exemplifies the complexities of conservation and displacement, the value of traditional ecological knowledge, the significance of free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC), the importance of sustainable conservation models, and the principles of human rights-based conservation. Participants will also learn about the significance of Lake Bogoria to the Endorois community's religious and cultural practices, and the deep connection the community has with the lake, which plays an integral role in their identity.
CV03: Maasai communities in the Greater Maasai Mara Ecosystem, Narok county.
Maji Moto Group Ranch presents a compelling case of land dispossession within the community. Participants will witness the impact of individuals in positions of power exploiting their privileges to violate the land rights of other community members. This visit will shed light on the community's long and challenging struggle for justice, employing strategies such as public litigation, advocacy, and mass action. Participants will gain first-hand insight into the complexities faced by land rights defenders and the immense courage required to assert their rights in the face of adversity. Maji Moto Group Ranch serves as a powerful example of resilience and the ongoing fight for land justice within Indigenous communities. Naboisho Conservancy showcases a successful model of community-led conservation. Participants will have the opportunity to observe how over 500 Maasai landowners have come together to collectively manage the conservancy. They will witness the positive outcomes of a multi-use and integrated management plan, which encompasses wildlife conservation, sustainable tourism, natural resource management, and economic livelihoods. This visit will highlight the benefits and challenges of the conservancy approach, demonstrating the importance of community involvement and collective decision-making in achieving conservation goals. Naboisho Conservancy exemplifies the harmonious coexistence of conservation efforts and the sustainable well-being of Maasai communities.

CV04: Narasha community, Naivasha sub-county, Nakuru county.
The visit to the Maasai community in Narasha will provide participants with a deep understanding of the community's struggle against forced eviction and involuntary resettlement due to the development and expansion of geothermal projects and the establishment of a National Park. Participants will learn about the lack of consultation and consideration of the impact on the Maasai's pastoralist livelihoods, as grazing land suitable for their livestock has been reduced. The visit will highlight the learning points in two thematic areas. First, participants will gain insights into the challenges and lessons from the community's struggle against the establishment of the conservation area, emphasising the importance of inclusive conservation practices that respect indigenous rights. Secondly, participants will explore the corporate culture surrounding the promotion of geothermal power and how it has been used to dispossess people of their land. They will examine the Maasai community's resilience and the successes they have achieved, including court cases and their unity in fighting back and remaining on their land. The visit will also shed light on the potential recognition of the community's land by the county of Nakuru and the community's plans to be actively involved in conservation and preserving the environment. Additionally, participants will appreciate the important role played by women in the struggle for the recognition of land rights, highlighting their significant contributions to the community's resilience.

Tuesday, 3 October (evening) Coming back together dinner at Lake Naivasha Resort
Early registration and delivery of the conference packages (notebooks, pen, badge) to participants. Quick overview of the week. Dinner together at 19:30.
**Wednesday 04 October: Kenya Day Programme**

After participating in community visits, we hope you will continue energised and ready to share your perspectives in the plenaries and breakout sessions!

This plenary session is dedicated to introducing participants to the host country, Kenya. Land has been and remains a politically sensitive and culturally complex issue for Kenya. Land reform was identified as an essential component of Kenya’s National Dialogue and Reconciliation (KNDR) process on addressing long standing issues towards resolving historical land injustices. This led to massive reorganisation of the land sector and institutions and the adoption of a body of laws and the review and harmonisation of Kenya’s land statutory regime to strengthen the role and participation of communities in the management of land and forest resources. A full-bodied process of transformation that is both creating opportunities and challenges for local communities. How is it working in practice?

**08:00- 09:00 Registration of participants (Lake Naivasha Resort)**

**Morning, 09:00 to 12:00**

**09:00 – 09:10** Welcome remarks by the organisers
- CLAN – Isaac Tobiko
- ILC & NLC Kenya – Fridah Githuku
- Tenure Facility – Albert Kwokwo Barume

*Moderated by:* Dr. Mwenda Makathimo

**09:10 – 09:40** Official opening remarks
- Community representative – Christine Kandie, Endorois Indigenous Women Network
- National Land Commission - Prof. James K. Tuitoek
- Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Heritage – MS Sylvia Musaia, PS State department of Wildlife
- Ministry of Environment, Climate change and Forestry - PS Environment – Eng. Festus K. Ng’eno
- Ministry of Lands, Public works, Housing and Urban Development – PS Generali Nixon Korir
- Nakuru County Governor – Susan Kihika

*Moderated by:* Dr. Mwenda Makathimo

**09:40 – 10:15** High-Level Panel Discussion: Investing in promoting IP&LC land rights in the context of conservation (part I)

*The first part of the session comprises of high-level officials from the Government of Kenya and looks into investing in policy and policy implementation that bring about IP&LC land rights sensitive conservation efforts.*

- Council of Governors – Nicodemus Mbwika, Urban Planning Committee
- National Land Commission – Commissioner Reginald Okumu
- Ministry of Environment, Climate change and Forestry - PS Environment – Eng. Festus K. Ng’eno
- The Commission on Administrative Justice (Office of the Ombudsman)
- National Gender and Equality Commission- TBC
- Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR) - TBC

*Moderated by:* CLAN / National Land Coalition – Kenya

**10:15 – 10:45** Q&A
**10:45 – 11:00** Tea break
High Level Panel Discussion: Investing in promoting IP&LC land rights in the context of conservation (part II)

The second part of the high-level panel brings out the perspective from development partners and civil society organizations as to what needs to be addressed to ensure IP&LC secure land rights in conservation context.

- WRI – Wanjira Mathai, Managing Director Africa and Global Partnerships
- FAO Kenya - Husna A. Mbarak, Programme Manager
- ICRAF - Dr Éliane Ubalijoro, Director General
- IFAD – Jo Puri, IFAD Associate Vice President
- ILEPA – Stanley Kimaren, Director
- OPDP – Daniel Kobei, Executive Director

Moderated by: CLAN / National Land Coalition- Kenya

Q&A

Highlights and closure of the morning sessions (Dr. Mwenda Makathimo)

Lunch

Afternoon, 13:30 – 16:30

Roundtable discussion: Experiences and lessons learned from the community visits.

This session aims at reflecting on lessons from community visits. Representatives from the host communities and international participants will share insights on the experiences and lessons learnt. The session is interactive and provides space for the rest of participants to intervene and contribute from their community visit’s experience.

- Ogiek: Regina Saitoti and John Sironga
- Endorois: Christine Kandie and Wilson Kimaru
- Naboisho: Joyce Sintoiya Sengeny and Dickson Olentika
- Maji Moto: Nkoitiko Noormejooli and Jonathan Mekuaya, Maji Moto
- Narasha: Agnes Koilel and Daniel Mpaga

Moderated by: Dr. Margaret Rugadya

Tea break and setting of the Experience Fair

Experience Fair

The Experience Fair is a group activity aimed at creating a welcoming environment with all participants being actively involved. Everyone will take part in several rounds of conversations in small groups to explore topics from many different perspectives, share knowledge and connect. It will be a nice way to get to know each other better.
Thursday 05 October: Break Out Sessions (BOS)

We will have 3 break-out sessions of 3 hours each, running in parallel in the morning (09:00-12:00) and other 3 sessions in the afternoon (13:30 – 16:30). Each session will be moderated by one or more people from the organizers.

By joining the break-out sessions, you will have the opportunity to deep dive into specific topics and engage in closer discussions with your peers. Simultaneous translation from/to Swahili- English/ English- French will be provided in each of the breakout rooms. Tea break will be served in the rooms.

Morning, 09:00 to 12:00

BOS1. Defending biodiversity: roles and challenges of land rights defenders

As external threats to nature continue to grow, so too do threats to the people, communities and organisations who defend our planet. Africa is not an exception. Among the most targeted are Indigenous Peoples and local communities who defend their collective lands, waters, and territories against powerful projects and industries. In addition to these direct drivers of the biodiversity and climate crises, they also face such threats from defending themselves and their territories against top-down and exclusionary forms of conservation, armed conflict, and the effects of broader economic and political trends such as shrinking of civic space for civil society. Intimidation against land rights defenders is often under-reported, and especially so for women. The session will look at current situations in different countries and at concrete examples and practices, whereby civil society is filling that gap of documenting attacks and protecting defenders while working to trigger action from governments.

Key learning points: effective practices to protect land rights defenders; actions in support of data collection and use.

Organised by: Alliance for Land, Indigenous and Environmental Defenders (ALLIED)

Facilitated by: Laura Furones, Global Witness

Speakers:
- Alfred Brownell, Green Advocates, USA
- François Biloko, Réseau CREF, DRC
- Sophie Achieng, Natural Justice, Kenya
- Daniel Kobei, Ogiek People’s Development Program (OPDP), Kenya
- Representative from Kenya Commission for Human Rights (KCHR)

BOS2. Rangelands and Pastoralism “the role of policy in sustainable land tenure for pastoralism”

Pastoralism contributes significantly to the national economies in East Africa. It is a productive system for drylands and indeed comes with several environmental values through the shared management of pooled resources practices by pastoralists. Despite accommodating better for climate change compared to livestock keepers tied to sedentary land use, mobile livelihoods are under huge pressure as aggravated by continuous fencing of areas, including for the growing creation of conservation and gaming areas in the region, reduced access to water hotspots and worsening of climate-related disasters, lack of recognition of their own land rights and practices. This breakout session will focus on
pastoralism and on the ecological value of rangelands; it will share practical experiences in the sustainable management of rangelands and pastoralism, including the creation of peaceful environments for transhumance, and the role of communities’ organisations in this context. The session will also look at the current regulatory and legal provisions relating to land use and their effectiveness in promoting sustainable management of rangelands and pastoralism.

**Key learning points:** good practices to ensure the sustainable management of rangelands and pastoralism; the role of CSOs to support local communities; main challenges and threats to mobile livelihoods and possible solutions for peaceful transhumance.

**Organised by:** Resource Conflict Institute (RECONCILE)

**Facilitated by:** Ken Otieno, RECONCILE and Amadou Amadou, MBOSCUDA

**Speakers:**
- Walet Aboubacrine Saoudata, Tin Hinan, Burkina Faso
- Chansa Elie John, PINGO’s Forum, Tanzania
- Husna A. Mbarak, FAO Regional Office, Kenya
- Kenneth Kumecha Tah, COMAID, Cameroon
- Andiswa Finca, Agricultural Research Council, South Africa
- Massa Koné, UACDDDD, Mali

**BOS3. Advancing Indigenous Peoples and local communities’ tenure rights in environmental conservation and in the management of protected areas**

While IP & LC have played a critical role in conservation and are currently recognized as major contributors to the conservation of biodiversity and to climate change mitigation, community land rights in protected area management and conservation is still a challenge. Historically, protected areas have been established as part of broader processes of expropriation of community lands, which resulted in conflicts between conservation agencies Indigenous and local communities. A “new paradigm” for protected areas has been evolving for decades in which IP & LC are recognized as land and resource owners and managers, with positive results for both human rights and conservation. Legal, institutional, and operational frameworks have been created to support community management of conserved areas. This session aims to explore the recognition and securing of land rights of IP & LC in the context of conservation. The panel will move from the outcomes of the 2022 Kigali Declaration and Global Biodiversity Framework and highlight links to solutions through national policy developments and action plans.

**Key learning points:** achievements and challenges in advancing IP & LC tenure rights in the context of conservation; opportunities and challenges in ensuring the rights of IP & LC towards conservation.

**Organised by:** ILC Africa Regional Platform 5

**Facilitated by:** John Samorai, OPDP

**Speakers:**
- Moses Nkhana, Mzimba Youth Organization, Malawi
- Onkemetsese Maruping, San Youth Organization, Botswana
- Rasaoarimalala Louisette, FIANTSO, Madagascar
- Sheriff Salia Idrissa, Green Advocates, Liberia
- Adamu Amadou, MBOSCUDA, Cameroon
- Diel Mochire Mwenge, PIDP, DRC
**Lunch, 12:00 - 13:30**

**Afternoon, 13:30 – 16:30**

**BOS4. Role of forest communities in forest conservation and management: experiences from Congo-Kinshasa and other African countries**

This session will look specifically at IP & LC in forest areas. Participants will share experiences from the Congo Basin and other parts of Africa, looking closer at arrangements such as the community forest concessions in Congo-Kinshasa and the community land rights’ process in Liberia. What can we learn from early implementation, what are the challenges, and what would help move the process forward? What kind of partnerships? What is needed for communities to fulfil their potential as rights-holders and guardians of ecosystems and ancient knowledge?

**Key learning points:** achievements and challenges in implementing community forest conservation; key partnerships to protect the land rights of forest communities and the sustainable management of forest resources.

**Organised by:** Tenure Facility

**Facilitated by:** Raymond Samndong and Jolien Schure, Tenure Facility

**Speakers:**
- Félicien Musenge/ Charles Mpoyi Mpoyi, Tropenbos DRC
- Floribert Masani, Réseau CREF, DRC
- Theophile Gata, CAGDFT, DRC
- Gregory Kitt/Marcus Sougbay, Parley Liberia, Liberia
- Kenneth Kumecha Tah, COMAID, Cameroon
- Ngah Epouse Masso Rose Pelagie, REFACOF, Cameroon

**BOS5. Enhancing the role of women in community-based land management and economic development**

This session will explore successful strategies to enhance the visibility, involvement, and decision-making role of women in community-based land and natural resources management. We will look at different examples from work related to land rights recognition, governance and economic development.

**Key learning points:** Strategies to strengthen women and girls’ voices and visibility in the protection and management of natural ecosystems; women using tenure rights as the basis for livelihoods and economic development; how to enhance women’s role in decision making processes at the community level.

**Organised by:** Tenure Facility

**Facilitated by:** Ylwa Renström Svensson and Margaret Rugadya, Tenure Facility

**Speakers:**
- Brahim Traoré, CNOP, Mali
- Loretta Pope Kai and Alexander Cole, FCI, Liberia
- Christine Kandie, Endorois Indigenous Women Network, Kenya
- TENFOREST Françoise Pioupure, TENFOREST, Burkina Faso
- Binyuki Nyota Esperance, UEFA, DRC
BOS6. Enhancing communities’ livelihoods and climate resilience through community-led conservation and restoration of African ecosystems: Experiences from the field.

The session aims at providing a space to discuss and showcase how the on-going activities put in place by IP & LC at the field level can help addressing the root causes of ecosystems degradation and biodiversity loss and provide long-term benefits and livelihoods, hence helping to achieve long-term communities’ resilience. This session is an opportunity for stakeholders to engage in ecosystems’ conservation and restoration and bring in innovative ideas enhancing livelihoods of IP & LC. The session will focus on the role of indigenous traditional ecological knowledge in ecosystem conservation. It will particularly highlight some successful practices and how they can be supported, scaled up or promoted across different ecosystems in Africa.

**Key learning points:** learn from innovative actions/activities in promoting ecosystem restoration and conservation; the role of Indigenous and community conserved areas (ICCCAs) to address biodiversity loss, deforestation and strengthen land rights for IP & LC; indigenous traditional ecological knowledge in the context of ecosystem conservation.

**Organised by:** ILC Africa Regional Platform 6  
**Facilitated by:** Antoine Kalinganire, CIFOR-ICRAF

**Speakers:**
- Pierre Dembele, Sahel Eco, Mali
- Patience Kadurira, ZERO, Zimbabwe
- Gladys Warigia Njoroge, KWCA, Kenya
- Lois Aduamoah-Addo, WiLDAF, Ghana
- Carmel Kifukieto, CAGDFT, DRC
- Representatives from Global Green Found

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**Friday 06 October: Skills Building Day**

**Morning, 09:00 to 12:00**

**Group work. Open Space & Workshops**

In Open Space meetings, events and organisations, participants create and manage their own agenda of parallel working sessions around a central theme of strategic importance. This session will give the opportunity to make space for the topics most people want to talk about, under the overarching theme of rights and conservation. To this aim, different workshops will be run in parallel during the whole morning.
Suggested workshops:

**Documenting violence against defenders and their communities: best practices and strategies**  
Organised by: ALLIED, ILC, Global Witness, Natural Justice, Green Advocates  
This workshop will focus on techniques and strategies that can be used to document violence, threats and attacks on defenders and their communities. The session will include local, regional, and global data collectors who will share their tools and concrete examples of how they document such incidents and what steps other organisations, communities and individuals can take to better document the threats they face and how such information can be stored and leveraged as data to influence policy processes.

**Partnerships as a pathway for power shifts for collective conservation impact**  
Organised by: Maliasili, Kenya  
Everyone has a unique set of experiences, viewpoints, and concepts to the process of exercising and shifting power. Each person should have the tools they need to develop the courage and confidence to contribute to change. Analysing power dynamics in practice, participants will reflect on the African Protected Areas Congress in Kigali, exploring themes such as governance, rights, benefits, and the challenges faced by organisations. The aim is to understand how power dynamics either enable or hinder community conservation efforts. Transitioning to Power in Partnership, the workshop aims to foster dialogue and generate actionable solutions. Participants will engage in group discussions and debates, seeking ways to address power dynamics within partnerships. The goal is to encourage open and honest dialogue among local African organisations, international NGOs, and donors, while developing tangible measures to improve collaboration. Through this collective effort, the workshop aims to drive positive change and create a lasting impact on conservation practices.

**Participatory mapping approaches with IP&LC: lessons learned and practical tools from the Democratic Republic of Congo**  
Organised by: CAGDFT, DRC  
Theophile Gata and Carmel Kifukieto, from CAGDFT, will present participatory mapping approaches and tools used to engage with Indigenous Peoples and local communities in DRC. In this session, participants will learn on the different steps of the participatory mapping process, familiarising with the mapping tools and discuss the opportunities and challenges faced in this process.

**Conservation and Land Rights: the difficult balance between opportunity and cost sharing**  
Organised by: ICRAF/ CIFOR  
This session aims to explore the impacts of nature-based solutions, the 30X30 initiative, and carbon markets on land rights. It will highlight the potential benefits and conflicts between conservation goals and local land rights in the context of nature-based solutions. It will also focus on financing mechanisms for IP & LC contributions to conservation. For example, carbon markets can incentivize the conservation of forests and other natural resources, which can lead to the restriction of Indigenous People's access to these resources, impacting their livelihoods and cultural practices. At the same time, they might be a way of accelerating land rights, securing the communities' legal ownership of the forest-carbon related to their lands. How can these developments work in synergy with land rights?
**Wholesome Approach in Securing Land Tenure: The Case for Kenya**

Organised by: FAO - Kenya

A holistic approach to land tenure security is central to addressing the long-standing and growing tensions between economic development, the need for ecosystem conservation and building the climate resilience of marginalised and vulnerable communities. Whereas the benefits of secure land tenure are widely known, countries, especially in the global south, still struggle to find the best approaches and practices to strengthen land tenure security for communities as most of the systems in place strongly depends on the legal, cultural, and environmental conditions as well as the readiness in terms of legal preparation and technical capabilities of the relevant institutions. Using Kenya as an example, this session will explore examples of best practices and fit-for-purpose solutions that some countries in Africa are adopting to maximise the benefits of secure land tenure.

**Effective use of geospatial tools to secure land tenure rights for indigenous people and local communities**

Organised by: Cadasta Foundation

This session will provide insights into how to promote the effective use of geospatial tools to secure land tenure rights for indigenous people and local communities. It will demonstrate how innovative tools and processes have made it possible for communities across the globe to secure their land rights. The session shall further provide insights into how our geospatial tools are enabling climate change adaptation and mitigation measures, and securing communal land rights.

**Afternoon, 13:30 – 15:00**

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