



NATIONAL LAND COALITION

A training of NLC members and stakeholders on the nexus between land rights and food systems



**VENUE: PIATO
RESTAURANT**

KAMPALA

**DATE: 31ST JAN,
2025.**

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1.0 Executive Summary

On 31st Jan, 2025, FRA in partnership with the National Land Coalition convened National Land Coalition members and stakeholders on the nexus between land rights and food systems at Piato Restaurant. The training aimed to enhance the understanding and capacity of the National Land Coalition and land actors to address the challenges and opportunities at the intersection of land rights and food systems. Further, the session intended to foster collaboration among stakeholders to promote secure land tenure, sustainable land use, and equitable food systems.

The training was engaged by 42(30F, 12M) stakeholders, both land actors and food systems experts in exploring the intersectionality between secure land tenure, equitable land access, and sustainable land management practices, food security, nutrition and inclusive food system transformation.

During the event, the technical facilitator engaged the stakeholders on key concepts of land rights, food systems and their interconnection. Through presentations and group work, stakeholders gained insights into the linkage between these concepts and identified opportunities for collaboration between land actors and food system stakeholders. An action plan was developed to engage the MoHULD in assessing the food systems discourse, with a focus on land issues. Additionally, it was emphasized that land actors should integrate food systems approaches into their current programs to align efforts for a sustainable transformation of food systems.

2.0 MEAL Summary

2.1 Activity Participation

Total Number of Participants:		42	Below 35 Years:	25
Female:	30	Male:	12	PWDs: 3

2.2 Activity Objectives

Broad objective	To enhance the understanding and capacity of the National Land Coalition and stakeholders to address the challenges and opportunities at the intersection of land rights and food systems.
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Specific objectives	• To create space for land actors to understand the linkage between land rights, food security, and sustainable agriculture. • To share knowledge and best practices on analysing and addressing land related issues • Foster collaboration among stakeholders to promote secure land tenure, sustainable land use, and equitable food systems.
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2.3 Report against activity objectives

All the activity objectives were achieved in the one-day meeting. Prior to the start of the training, a pre-test on the key concepts on land rights and food systems and the linkage between the two concepts. Through the pre-test, land rights stakeholders had limited knowledge on food systems and high knowledge on land rights while food systems stakeholders had limited knowledge on land rights and high knowledge on food systems. Further, the participants were introduced to the nexus to foster collaboration among stakeholders to promote secure land tenure, sustainable land use, and equitable food systems.

2.4 Report on activity Outcomes

Through the training, the capacity of National Land Coalition members and stakeholders to address the challenges and opportunities at the intersection of land rights and food systems was increased. The post assessment results showed that 89% of stakeholders gained a high level of knowledge on land rights, and 70% gained high knowledge on food systems. Stakeholders understood the concepts, though they were previously unfamiliar with the specific terminologies. Furthermore, 99% of stakeholders recognized and appreciated the National Land Coalition as a strategic platform for advancing their organizational objectives. 70% expressed strong interest in joining the coalition thematic areas and contributing to its mission.

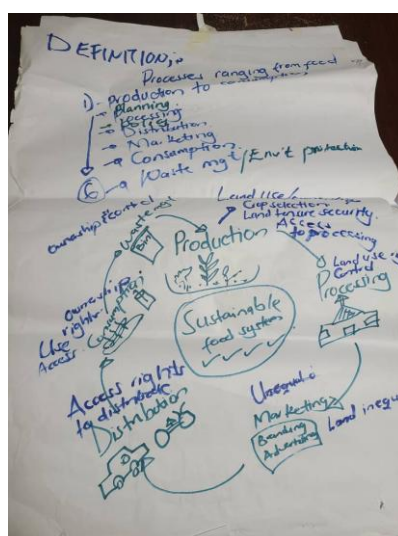
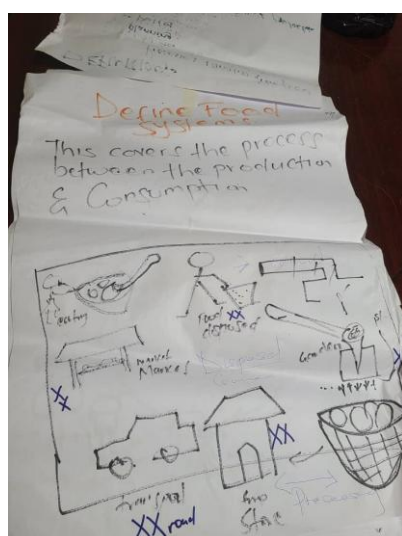


Figure 1: Illustrations of Food systems by stakeholders during the training on the nexus between land rights and food systems



Figure 2: Group work discussions on the nexus between land rights and food systems at Piato restaurant

2.5 Report on Output indicators

Indicator No.	Output indicator	Activity Result
Number of stakeholders engaged in the training on the nexus between land rights and food systems.	42(12M, 30F) stakeholders engaged, both land actors and food system actors.	-Capacity built on the nexus between land rights and food systems through experience sharing and pre and post training assessment. -Development of an action plan to ensure programming of food systems into land systems.

3.0 Methodology

The event was conducted as a one-day training on 31st January, 2025 at Piato Restaurant, Kampala. The training involved remarks from Food Rights Alliance and the National Land Coalition, pre- and post-training assessments, group discussions, as well as presentations on the nexus between land rights and food systems.

4.0 Brief of Proceedings and Key Emerging Issues

The meeting began at 9:30 am with the moderator greeting and warmly welcoming all participants. The FRA Executive Director then gave the opening remarks, followed by the pre- and post-training assessments. This was followed with the NLC facilitator presentation on the National Land Coalition. The session concluded with an in-depth training on the concepts of land rights, food systems, and their interconnection, and group interactions and presentations.

Remarks from Food Rights Alliance.

In her welcoming remarks, Ms. Agnes Kirabo, Executive Director of the Food Rights Alliance, highlighted FRA's leadership in the food systems thematic area within the National Land Coalition. She stressed the critical link between secure land rights and resilient food systems, emphasizing that equitable access to land is essential for food security, sustainable agriculture, and improved nutrition. Kirabo urged participants to use the training to share knowledge and strengthen the connection between land rights and food systems. She also called for collaboration in land rights advocacy and urged stakeholders to integrate land issues into food systems planning and decision-making.



Figure 1: Ms Agnes Kirabo, FRA executive director delivering her welcoming remarks during the training on the nexus between land rights and food systems.

This was followed with a presentation from Dr. Doreen Kobusingye, the NLC Facilitator provided an overview of the National Land Coalition, describing it as a platform of over 40 organizations focused on land and natural resource governance in Uganda. The coalition's goal was to promote equitable land ownership and security for all citizens, guided by Uganda's Vision 2040. Its core objective is to build a competent and united body of land actors to influence policy and advocate for inclusive, gender-sensitive land laws.

Dr. Kobusingye highlighted eight thematic areas the NLC focuses on, including land tenure and inequality, land corruption, natural resource management, food systems, investment, and the rights of women, youth, and vulnerable groups. Noted that areas ensure that NLC's work addresses diverse land issues. Regarding NLC's work, notable initiatives include the development of papers on pastoralism and land governance, natural resource management in Uganda, land governance and climate change, and participated in the Stand for Her Land Campaign. Organizations interested in joining the coalition are encouraged to submit an expression of interest letter and share their organization profile.



Figure 2: Dr. Doreen Kobusingye, the NLC facilitator delivering her presentation on NLC during the training on the nexus between land rights and food systems

This was followed by in-depth training from the technical facilitator. She approached the training in three tasks, Task 1 on Land rights, Task 2 on Food Systems and Task 3 on the nexus between land rights and food systems.

During task one, the facilitator outlined various categories of land rights, including formal rights, acquired through purchase, inheritance, or occupation, where bona fide occupants are legally protected after 12 years of unchallenged occupancy. Tenure-based rights depend on the land's tenure system, such as leasehold, where the lessee has temporary rights. Occupation rights refer to both lawful and bona fide occupants, with lawful occupants having the owner's consent and bona fide occupants acquiring rights after long-term use without dispute. Usage or enjoyment rights allow non-owners to perform activities like grazing or collecting resources on the land. Customary rights vary by community, with communal land often managed by elders, as in Acholi, where they decide land transactions. Finally, access and passage rights involve easements, enabling a landowner or occupier to access their land through another person's property.



FORMS OF LAND RIGHTS



Formal Rights

- Acquired thru,
- purchase,
- Occupation
- Grant from govt



Tenure Based Rights

- Acquired Thru:
- Mile
- Freehold
- Leasehold
- Customary(The land act 1998)



Occupation Rights

- Acquired by law as lawful occupant or Bona Fide occupant



FORMS OF LAND RIGHTS



Customary

- V
- Vary from community to community
- Governed by the norms, laws and customs on land



Usage/Enjoyment

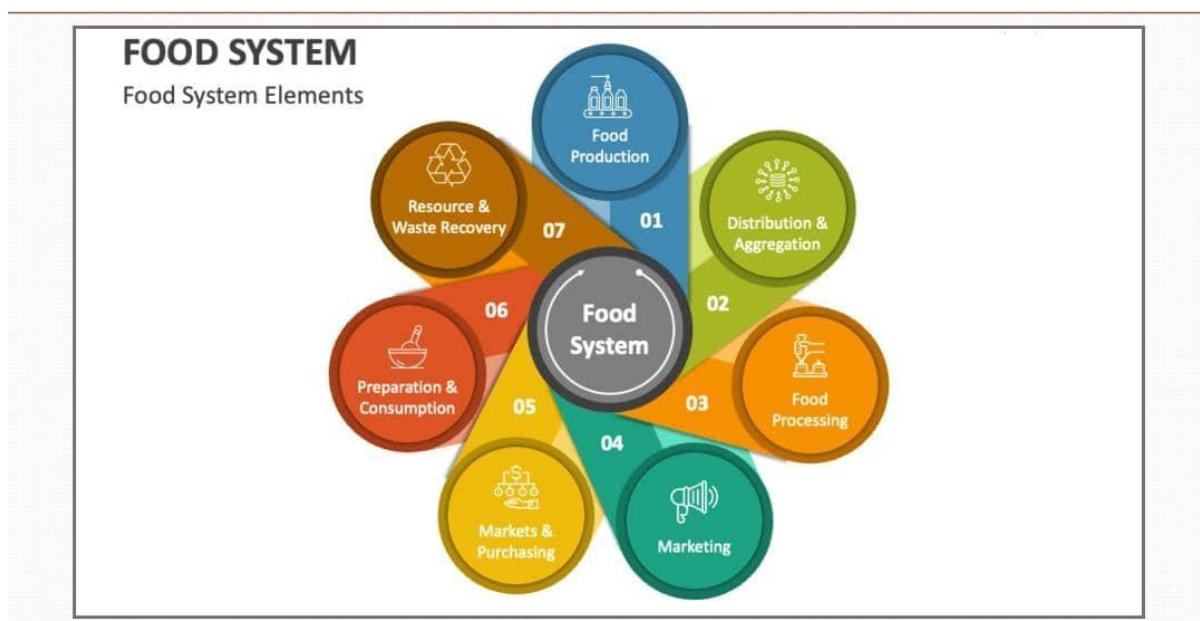
- Entitles one to carryout certain activities
- No restrictions/ disturbance. Activities e.g. Grazing, Gathering firewood, Obtaining Water



Access and Passage

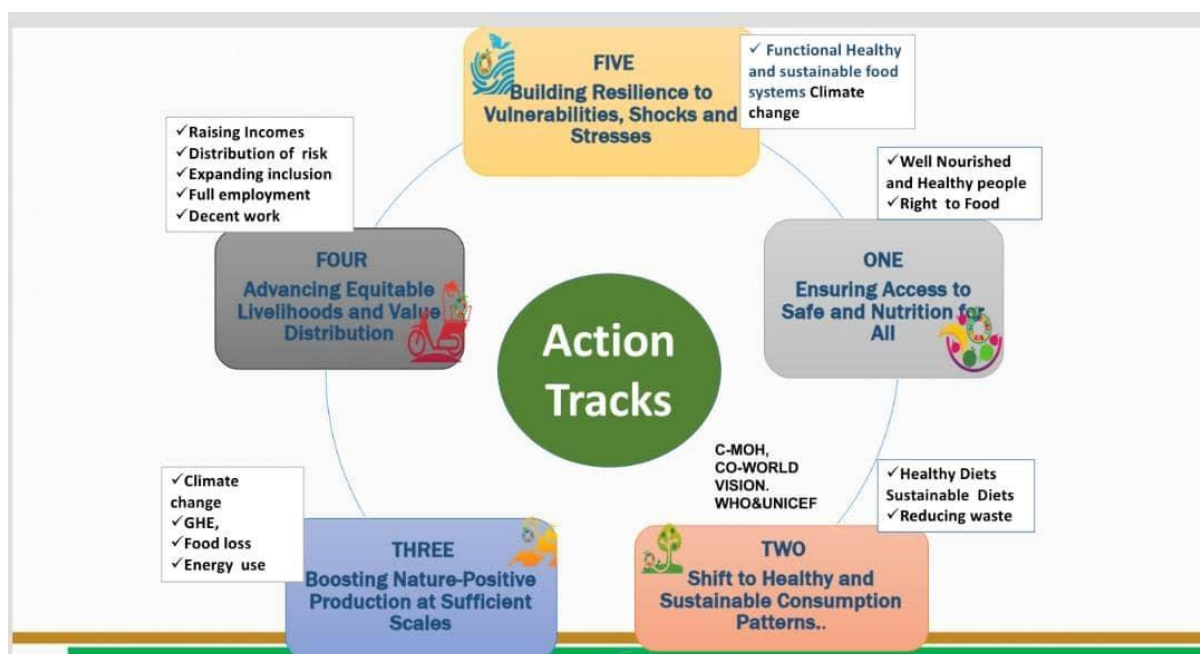
- Easement required to allow access

During task two on food systems, the facilitator summarized the concept of food systems as a set of interconnected processes and actors involved in the planning, production, and consumption of food, as well as the utilization of its outputs and benefits. She emphasized that food systems encompass everything "from farm to food security, nutrition, health, and development." She highlighted that a food system encourages us to recognize there isn't a single pathway to ensure the quantity and quality of food we need. Instead, we must appreciate the role each part of the system plays. If one link in the chain breaks down, it impacts the entire system.



She emphasized that achieving a sustainable transformation of food systems requires all actors to focus on the following key areas:

- Ensuring access to safe and nutritious food for all
- Shifting to healthy and sustainable consumption patterns
- Boosting nature-positive production at sufficient scales
- Advancing equitable livelihoods and fair value distribution
- Building resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks, and stresses



Presentation on the nexus between Land rights and food systems.

While the facilitator was presenting on the nexus, the intersection of land rights and food systems was explained in terms of enablers or drivers. These include economic, social, environmental, and political drivers:

Under economic drivers;

- Investment and economic growth: Secure land rights attract investments, stimulate economic growth, and reduce poverty.
- Agricultural productivity: Clear land rights led to increased agricultural productivity, improved food security, and better livelihoods for farmers.
- Property values: Well-defined land rights increase property values, enabling landowners to use their land as collateral for loans.

Social Drivers:

- Social justice and equity: Land rights address historical injustices, promote social equity, and protect vulnerable groups, such as indigenous peoples and women.
- Community development: Secure land rights empower local communities to manage natural resources, preserve cultural heritage, and promote development.
- Human rights: Land rights are essential for realizing human rights, including the right to food, water, shelter, and an adequate standard of living.

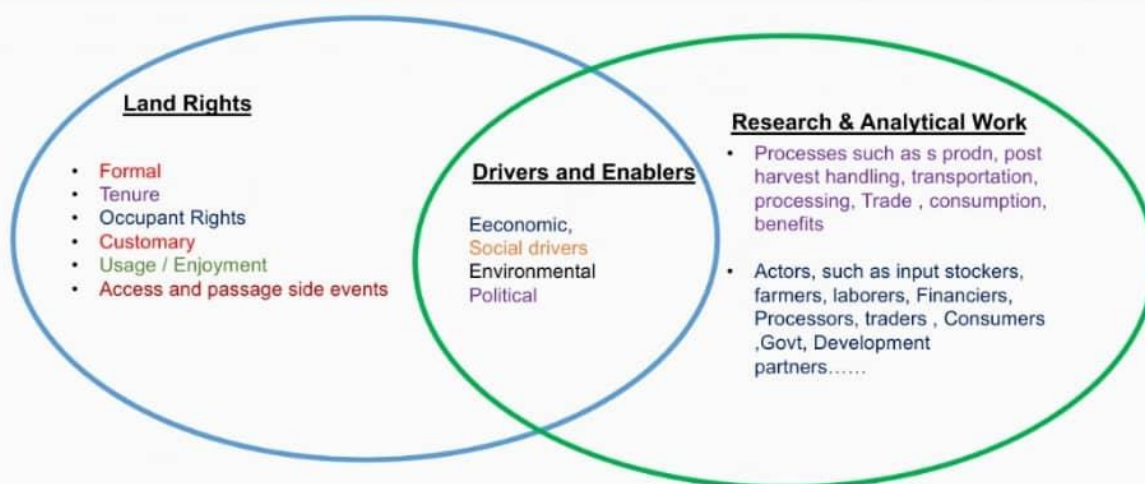
Environmental Drivers:

- Conservation and sustainable use: Clear land rights incentivize sustainable land use, conservation, and environmental protection.
- Climate change mitigation and adaptation: Secure land rights help communities adapt to climate change, reduce deforestation, and promote sustainable land management.
- Natural resource management: Well-defined land rights facilitate effective natural resource management, reducing conflicts and promoting cooperation.

Political and Institutional Drivers:

- Good governance and rule of law: Strong institutions and good governance ensure secure land rights, reduce corruption, and promote transparency.
- Policy and legislative frameworks: Effective policy and legislative frameworks provide a foundation for secure land rights, clarify ownership, and ensure fair dispute resolution mechanisms.

International cooperation and agreements: Global agreements, such as the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests (VGGT), promote secure land rights and responsible governance.



Opportunities for integrated engagement of land and food system actors

- Food Systems Stock-Taking +4: Advocate for independent assessments of Uganda's food systems stock-taking +4 efforts, ensuring transparency and accountability.
- National Food Systems Coordination Committee (NFSCC) Public and Private Expenditure: Strengthen the participation of the Ministry of Housing, Urban and Land Development (MoHULD) in public and private expenditure discussions related to food systems.
- Food System Civil Society Coordination (FSCSCM): Strengthen track 2 (inclusive food value chains), track 3 (sustainable food systems), and track 5 (social protection and resilience) to ensure holistic transformation of food systems.

- **Strengthen Food Systems and Land Rights Programming:** Integrate food systems and land rights within broader programming efforts to ensure sustainable land use and equitable access to land for all stakeholders

5.00: Recommendations

- CSOs to influence MoHULD to assess the food systems discourse, with a focus on land issues.
- CSOs to influence MoHULD to engage with the National Food Systems Coordination Committee and clarify the critical role of land in food systems transformation.
- Land actors should integrate food systems approaches into their existing programming to align efforts towards sustainable food systems transformation.
- Stakeholders interested in contributing to thematic groups should reach out to the thematic leads to ensure a coordinated and inclusive approach.

11.0 Plan of Action / Way forward

List of Action	Lead Partner
Integration of food systems approaches into land programming	Land actors, CSOs, NLC members
Engage MoHULD and the National Food Systems Coordination committee to clarify the critical role of land in food systems transformation	NLC members

12.0 Challenges

None

13.0 Lessons Learned

The absence of MoHULD from food systems discussions has created a neglect of land issues in food systems transformation discussions. There's need land actors for land actors to influence MoHULD engagement with the National Food Systems Coordination Committee and emphasize the vital role of land in achieving sustainable food systems transformation."

Story of change / testimony

None

15.0 Conclusion

In conclusion, the training successfully enhanced the capacity of stakeholders to address the nexus between land rights and food systems, fostering collaboration towards sustainable and equitable outcomes.

