



LAND ADMINISTRATION



Community participation and awareness

Land Equity International (LEI) is known for its successful and innovative approaches to community participation, community education and gender awareness. Our approach involves working with local non-government and civil society organisations (NGOs/CSOs), and drawing on existing and increasing networks to raise awareness and engage the community in project activities. We use a variety of forums and media to ensure all community groups are represented and considered when designing and implementing land administration reforms.

LEI is experienced in:

- *Community mapping and profiling* – undertaking an initial assessment of communities and identifying potential safeguard issues
- *Community participation* – working closely with all stakeholders, including the government, private sector and NGOs/CSOs to ensure social and gender equality is promoted, and the needs and aspirations of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups are seriously considered
- *Public awareness campaigns* – designing public awareness media programs, material publications and workshops to raise awareness and instigate dialogue among stakeholders and public beneficiaries on the importance of recording rights for all
- *Gender* – ensuring women are explicitly considered and empowered to participate in project activities, developing gender-specific public awareness materials, and providing appropriate forums for women's participation, and
- *Information, education and communication* – using a variety of media, including print, radio, television, focus group discussions and workshops to inform land holders about their rights and responsibilities regarding formal registration of land.

Clients can expect the following when working with LEI:

- Community mapping, profiling and participation efforts protect vulnerable beneficiary groups.
- Culturally and socially-appropriate reforms are achieved through local engagement in the design phase. This helps ensure that changes to be implemented respect cultural norms and can be readily adopted by community users, which results in higher levels of formal registration.
- Local partnerships are promoted in land programs to increase cooperation and participation at the grassroots level.
- Land owners are targeted through community/public awareness campaigns to develop an enhanced understanding of the benefits of formal registration.

Project examples

Project Name	Country (Client)	Project Timeframes
<p>Participatory Mapping and Planning Sub-Activities No. 2, 3 and 7 (PMaP2, PMaP3 and PMaP7)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Included spatial planning socialisation workshops – organised to bridge spatial planning awareness and knowledge gaps in women and indigenous peoples. 	Indonesia (MCA-Indonesia)	Three projects of 12+ months duration between 2016-2018
<p>Mekong Region Land Governance (MRLG) project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The MRLG project/Land Portal co-facilitated an online dialogue in early 2017 on the Recognition of Customary Tenure in the Mekong Region. This focused on challenges and opportunities relating to recognition of indigenous, ethnic minority and community tenure rights in the Mekong Region. It highlighted different models of customary tenure recognition and the strengths and weaknesses of different approaches (particularly with regard to communal titling). See https://tinyurl.com/mmnd2ev 	Mekong Region (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Viet Nam) (SDC)	2014-2018
<p>Vanuatu Land Program (formerly Mama Graon – Land Program)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New land laws were designed to protect customary land rights and to facilitate improved land governance. Support included the organisation and delivery of a wide-ranging public consultation, outreach and educational program designed to ensure custom owner groups (including women, youth and minority groups) were better informed on land lease issues and able to participate more effectively in formal land dealings. 	Vanuatu (DFAT (as AusAID; New Zealand Government)	2010-2015
<p>Systematic Land Regularization and Improvement of Rural Land Allocation Processes in Lesotho (Design Phase)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Li-pitso (a type of village meeting) assisted to inform communities about project activities. Meetings were set up specifically for women. The main objectives were to: include/empower women who were able to participate in regularisation activities; provide specific information on women's rights; provide an environment where concerns might be voiced in relation to the effects of the project on women, families and vulnerable groups; and ensure concerns/issues were captured and addressed by field teams during adjudication. 	Lesotho (MCA-Lesotho)	2009-2011
<p>Lao-Australia Property Rights and Land Titling Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Objectives included improving land tenure security, developing transparent and efficient land administration institutions at the national and provincial levels, and improving government capacity to provide social and economic services through a broader revenue base from property-related fees and taxes. Key elements included: improving community education and community awareness; developing support for vulnerable groups; and ensuring gender equity (protection of property rights of women). 	Lao PDR (AusAID)	2003-2009

For more in-depth information on our projects, please see: www.landequity.com.au/projects



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