



## Concept Note

### High Level Event at the CSW 67 (2023)

#### “Innovation and Digital Technology - A Facilitator to Secure Land Tenure and Natural Resources for All.”

Tuesday, 7th March 2023, 10:00am-11:15am, CR-A UNHQ

“The Stand For Her Land Campaign” in collaboration with UN Women , The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), Landesa, International Land Coalition (ILC), Habitat For Humanity and the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) and with the leadership of Kenya, USA, Senegal (TBC), Uganda (TBC), Sweden (TBC) , German Government (TBC) and IFAD proposes to host a High Level Event during the CSW67 titled “Digital Technology – A Facilitator to Secure Land Tenure and Natural Resources For All”.

The session aims to amplify the impact that access and use of digital technology has enabled to advance secure land tenure for women in the pursuit for gender equality and sustainable development. Securing land tenure for women is not only critical for good land governance but a precondition to address the challenges of climate change, increased food shortages, support economic justice for women and girls . Digital technology has the possibility to accelerate documentation of land holdings, facilitate better administration and management of land information and strengthen land use planning.

In the paper titled “*The role of open data and digital technology in property management in the developing countries, the case of Rwanda*” the authors *David Mihigo and Frederick Magina* reckons that digitizing land information has solved over 87% of related problems and significantly improved land security. Access, control, and effective utilization of digital technology potentially promotes accountability in

land governance. There is a growing body of evidence that land users have benefitted immensely with the emerging innovations related to agriculture production, market and weather data access that is being propelled by digital technology. Unfortunately, the persistent gender digital divide where women and girls have less access, ownership, and control than men may limit equal enjoyment of associated benefits. The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) [Facts and Figures](#) highlighted that “ Globally, only 57 per cent of women were using the Internet by 2020, compared to an estimated 62 per cent of men. The report also indicates that the gap gets wider in many countries of South Asian and Sub-Saharan Africa Countries. This is primarily because communities who live in areas with limited infrastructure have poor access to digital technology.

Women and girls living in rural areas have disproportionately low access to quality infrastructure that would support optimal benefit from the advanced innovations and digital technology. Therefore, the review of the theme: “Challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls (agreed conclusions of the sixty-second – CSW62 session) is timely and complements the CSW67 theme.

### **Expected Outputs**

The side event presents the opportunity to **share** innovative experiences of how digital technology has made it possible to protect, accelerate ownership/control over and optimize output from land and natural based resources. Undeterred by low internet access however, women and girls have embraced the advancement of digital technology. The session will hear the progress by different governments development partners and various civil society organizations are making towards improving a gender just land governance while facilitating productive and beneficial utilization of resources through innovation and use of digital technology in climate financing, securing women land rights and advancing equal participation in leadership by men and women including young women. It is hoped that the session will **highlight the challenges** that remains to be tackled and **explore future partnership** to work together to advance gender equality by taking advantage of the growing opportunities provided by digital technology.

## Agenda

Moderator: Harriet Chiggai Jirongo, Presidential Advisor on Women Rights Agency

Duration: 90 min

Time	Proposed Speaker	Content
5mins	Kenya Government representative	Welcome Remarks -Hon Aisha Katana
15min	UN Women Government of Senegal/German/USA (all governments)	Short Remarks
30 mins	Rural women Voices representative	Local communities experiences with digital technology to advance land governances for grassroots women in rural & pastoralist communities and persistent challenges
	Young Women voices	Young people's contribution in making digital technology to achieve a just world in access and control over natural resources
	FIG Representative	The role of land surveyors in bridging the gender divide in digital technology
	IFAD Representative	Lessons and opportunities on how Climate Financing is a catalyst to advance Gender Transformative Approaches that works to secure women land rights
	IGAD Representative	IGAD Regional Land Monitoring framework and the role of Land digitalization systems to close gender data gaps
	Stand For Land Campaign	Innovative Digital technology Tools for Advocacy (Asia, Africa and LAC)
30min	Plenary	Question, Comments and Answers
10min	Closing remarks	

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