

Sixty-Seventh Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW67)

BOLD ACTIONS, BEYOND THE TALKS | Realizing Rural Women's Land Rights and Tenure Security

- **SPONSOR:** International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

CO-ORGANIZERS:

- United States Government
- UN Women
- Stand For Her Land Campaign
- International Land Coalition
- Landesa
- IGAD

WHEN: Wednesday, 8 March at 3.00pm NY

WHERE: Conference Room B UNHQ NY

BACKGROUND: Rural women's rights to land and other productive resources are a foundational condition for achieving gender equality, economic justice, climate justice, adequate housing, land degradation neutrality, peace and stability. Rural women's secure access to land and resources supports their independence and autonomy, provides for their day-to-day needs and those of their families and allows them to weather some of life's most difficult challenges. Realizing rural women's land rights is an integral part of the gender-responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.¹

There is broad recognition of the importance of eliminating discrimination in access to, control over and use of land as recognized by existing international agreements, frameworks and conventions (2030 Agenda, New Urban Agenda, Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure, Rio Conventions (and associated Gender Action Plans), UN Declaration on the Rights of Peasants, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, African Union Agenda 2063, Kilimanjaro Rural Women Charter of Demands, and others. And yet, in the past decades have not made progress on women's land rights and tenure security. Prevailing gender inequalities, combined with the amplified effect of multiple and intersecting forms of

¹ United Nations (Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights) and United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women). 2020. [Realizing Women's Rights to Land and Other Productive Resources](#), Second Edition. New York and Geneva.

discrimination, undermine rural women’s exercise of their rights to land and other productive resources. Global trends and crisis – such as commodification and financialization of land, accelerating climate change, biodiversity loss, land degradation and urbanization – are exacerbating pressure on land and the natural resources.

To achieve the SDGs and not to leave anyone behind, we must work together to secure land and natural resource tenure rights and participatory land governance for millions of rural, urban, grassroots, indigenous women and youth. But to achieve this, we need to **move beyond the talks and commit to bold actions**.

OBJECTIVE: To outline a transformative agenda for rural women’s rights to land and other productive resources by reinforcing what works and advocating for shifting resources and programming to accelerate gender equality, secure rural women’s land rights in the context of economic and climate justice. The event connects to the review theme of CSW67 focusing on rural women and girls.

FORMAT: This will be a moderated Roundtable held and in-person under the collaboration of International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), UN Women, IGAD, LANDESA, The United States Government, the International Land Coalition and Stand For Her Land Campaign. The event will include a roundtable discussion, highlighting diverse voices, including from grassroots women, governments and the UN system. **DRAFT AGENDA:**

TIME	SEGMENT	CONTENT	SPEAKERS
5 min	Opening	Welcome and Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Andrea Meza Murillo, Deputy Executive Secretary, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)
45 min	Roundtable Discussion	Deep-dive discussions on the persistent barriers to realizing rural women’s land rights and tenure security and outlining the forward-looking transformative agenda for collective bold action that goes beyond the talks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderator: Ndaya Beltchika, Lead Technical Specialist on Gender and Targeting (IFAD) Jemimah Njuki, Chief of Economic Empowerment, UN Women Wairimu Kanyiri, GROOTS Kenya Amina Amharech, Amazigh activist / Founding member of the Feminist Land Platform
20 min	Question and Answer	Moderator takes questions from the audience for the speakers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderator: Ndaya Beltchika (IFAD)

5 min	Wrap Up	<p>Call to Action</p> <p><i>Getting involved in the Collective Commitment on Women's Land Rights in the context of the Action Coalition on Feminist Action for Climate Justice and Economic Justice and Rights</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beth Roberts, Stand For Her Land Campaign
5 min	Closing Remarks		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marcus Koll, Representative of the German government