

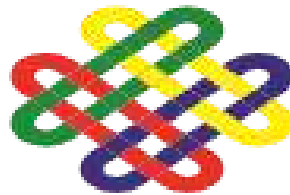
PROJECT END TERM
EVALUATION



WOMEN LAND RIGHTS FOR INCLUSIVE
DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH IN AFRICA
(WIDGRA)



Prepared by:



**QUADEXCEL RESEARCH,
TRAINING AND CONSULTING LTD**
"Evidence Based Practice"

Team of Consultants:

Alex Muthui: Lead Consultant (Director)
Patrick Olwa: Co-Consultant (Director)
Maureen Omondi: Co-Consultant (Director)
Barbara Akinyi: Legal Expert



WOMEN LAND RIGHTS FOR INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH IN AFRICA (WIDGRA)

**PROJECT END TERM
EVALUATION**

APRIL 2021



CONTENTS

05

ACRONYMS

07

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

08

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

18

CHAPTER ONE: PROJECT
BACKGROUND

21

CHAPTER TWO:
METHODOLOGY

24

CHAPTER THREE: FINDINGS
AND DISCUSSIONS

66

CONCLUSIONS &
RECOMMENDATIONS

73

EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

87

CONSULTED DOCUMENTS

ACRONYMS

AENA	National Association of Rural Extension (AENA)
AU	African Union
CNOP-CAM	Concertation Nationale des Organisations Paysannes au Cameroun
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
COVID-19	Corona Virus Disease 2019
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FIDA	Federation of Women Lawyers, Kenya
IPs	Implementing Partner
KII	Key Informant Interview
L&A	Lobby and Advocacy
LSLBIs	Large Scale Land Based Investments
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
PLAAS	Institute for Poverty, Land and Agrarian Studies
PROPAC	Plateforme Régionale des Organisations Paysannes d’Afrique Centrale
RECs	Regional Economic Communities (RECs) of the African Union
SOC	Stories of Change
TOT	Training of Trainers
UEWCA	Union of Ethiopian Women Charitable Association
VSLAs	Voluntary Savings and Loan Associations
WIDGRA	Women Land Rights for Inclusive Development and Growth in Africa
WILDAF	Women in Law & Development in Africa (WILDAF)
WLR	Women Land Rights



LIST OF TABLES

Table 1. Overview of the level of synergy between Pathways of change in the WIDGRA countries

Table 2. Overview of the level of integration of WIDGRA in other programmes funded by WIDGRA

Table 3: Overview of reported capacity changes following the 5C framework

Table 4. Featured WIDGRA Advocacy stories

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Oxfam Women Land Rights Mode

Figure 2. WIDGRA Evaluation process

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We wish to acknowledge the European Union for their financial support for the study. Our thanks also go to members of the Community, all women engaged in the project, Civil Society Organizations, key stakeholders such as elders, chiefs for their time and invaluable contribution and information during this study in the eight countries (Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Tunisia, Cameroon, South Africa and Togo).

Our deepest appreciation goes to the study team for their time we note with gratitude their unrelenting spirit, hard work and contribution towards this evaluation. We would also like to thank the Project Staff for their support and guidance.

We thank experts who provided technical inputs and review of the end term evaluation report; Finally, we would like to thank all stakeholders consulted in the course of this study; Community members, judges, chiefs and other significant opinion leaders, members of Court User Committees, members of the judiciary, Civil Society Organizations, Members of parliament, and Ministry of Lands for their cooperation during the review. Their critical insights helped to shape our findings.

We are enthusiastic that the results of this end-term evaluation will inform future programs seeking to address women land rights in Africa

Alex Muthui



Director
QuadExcel Research, Training and Consulting Ltd.





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Oxfam International Pan Africa Program, PROPAC and PLAAS implemented a European Union-funded project, the Women Land Rights for Inclusive Development and Growth in Africa (WIDGRA) since February 2017 towards ensuring women's access to and control over their land resources across Africa by supporting and enabling rural women's voices. The project was implemented in 8 countries (Kenya, Tunisia, Ethiopia, Malawi, Togo, Cameroon, Mozambique and South Africa) in partnership with the International Land Coalition and CSOs in respectful countries. The end term evaluation of the program used the OECD DAC criteria to assess the relevance, effectiveness, sustainability, impacts, best practices and lessons learnt that can be utilized beyond the project on Oxfam's advocacy work on Women's Land Rights.

This end-term evaluation was organized between the Oxfam International Pan Africa Program, PROPAC and PLAAS. The responsibility for this evaluation lies with Oxfam international.

WIDGRA project aimed to strengthen governance through Public sector/Government engagement towards effective enactment and implementation of policies on women's land rights, promote gender equity through changing sociocultural beliefs in enhancing women's access and control of land, build CSOs and rural women capacities to increasingly participate in key decision-making processes on land and land-based resources.

Among key WIDGRA interventions included research through the use of scorecards to assess the performance and level of implementation on women land rights instruments, development of transformative leadership training manuals as well as TOT manual for community engagement of women land rights that were used as knowledge materials to train CSOs who acted as TOTs, policy dialogues at the local, national governments and regional level on women land rights, development of shadow reports which were disseminated to relevant government agencies to influence policy change and discourse amongst other core activities.

This set of interventions developed and tested by the WIDGRA project in the eight project countries. The project also conducted a baseline survey in 2018. The baseline aimed to determine the prevailing conditions, especially related to women land rights (1) establish a baseline and (2) inform programmatic adaptations relevant to the country-specific context.

A. Study Design

The end term evaluation sampled stakeholders that included implementing partners in the consortium, CSOs, rural women, government representatives, regional governments representatives targeted for the WIDGRA intervention in the eight countries, selected using purposeful sampling. Fieldwork took place from February 5th to 10th March 2021. Data collection was completed with 15 CSOs, 10 rural women community groups, 5 national government actors, regional government stakeholders and 8 implementing partners representatives. The consultants administered data collection tools composed of indicators from sources including the WIDGRA logframe, Scorecard amongst other key documents.

B. Key Findings

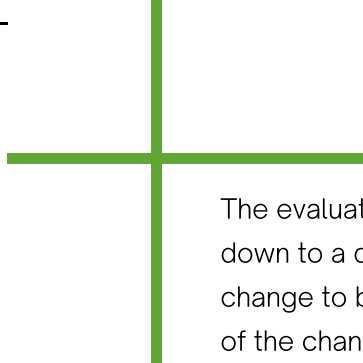
Relevance

The evaluation established that the activities and outputs of the project were consistent with the overall goal and contributed to the attainment of its objectives. This was demonstrated through evidence gathered that showed the WIDGRA project factored the needs of the target groups who included women with disabilities. During the design, planning and implementation phase. One of the main problems was the lack of knowledge on AU legal instruments and frameworks amongst rural women in the eight countries, the project designed knowledge management materials including the Leadership transformative manual, TOT manual for community engagement in women land rights, scorecards amongst key tools that aimed at addressing the knowledge gap on women land rights legal and policy frameworks amongst rural women as well as incorporating women in the development and validation of these knowledge materials.

The evaluation findings established that the country programmes are the result of a good situational and context analysis, selected and specified pathways of change offer a relevant response to the identified challenges concerning the position of rural women, the civic space, and are aligned to ongoing sector reform and/or government policies, as described in the country baseline reports, scorecards report and shadow reports cases and desk study. This demonstrates the interventions implemented in the WIDGRA project and outputs are consistent with the intended impacts and effects aimed at ensuring women's access to and control over their land resources across Africa through supporting and enabling rural women's voices.

The findings also show that in all countries, relevant partners were selected to implement the pathways of change towards the project goal, shown by their relevant thematic expertise and track record, the networks they are involved in and/or their access to grassroots women organizations. Specific advocacy capacity was varying among the CSOs and varying between the WIDGRA project countries, with countries that had included partners with specific advocacy expertise and countries where overall advocacy capacity needed to be built or strengthened.

Though the project did not have a Theory of Change but rather used the logframe, some weaknesses in the design of the changes expected as a result of the interventions could be noticed.



The evaluators observe that the logframe results approach at the country level was narrowed down to a discussion on interventions to be accomplished missing the general objective of the change to be established hence some change was documented due to lack of proper targeting of the changed expected. The interventions are not sufficiently explicit on how the change will be brought about, and/or on the relationships between the different envisioned changes and advocacy targets, and how these mutually relate and influence hence the project needed a clear Theory of Change.

In most cases in the eight countries, the WIDGRA project was complementing existing programmes and projects with an advocacy component (the so-called ‘top-up’ programmes), hence this made the project relevant to the context of the implementing partners to be a continuous process rather than a startup process.

With the WIDGRA project operating in many countries characterized by some restrictive political environment, an emphasis on dialogue, collaboration and coordination with government officials was indeed a strategic approach to bridge civil society needs with government interests and response which was relevant towards the achievement of the project objectives.

Though the project aimed to strengthen connections between local, national and regional advocacy and enhance the voice of women on land rights, this was limited and only visible somehow in six countries (Kenya, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Togo, Tunisia and Cameroon). The assessment established no formal lobby & advocacy plan was existing to guide the collaboration between the local stakeholders (CSOs, rural women) national WIDGRA team (Oxfam) and the WIDGRA team at the regional level (PLAAS, PROPAC and Oxfam). Collaboration and information exchange took place on an ad-hoc basis.

The evaluation results also established that the project monitoring and reporting were well coordinated by the project steering committee which comprised of Oxfam, PLAAS and PROPAC which ensured the regional capacity gaps were strategically addressed through a review of progress reports and provision of strategic input to enable the project to achieve its milestones. During the annual learning workshops, reflection and adaptations on the project approaches were done by WIDGRA project members and the implementing partners, with most of the adaptations situated at the operational level.

Effectiveness

WIDGRA project enhanced the capacity of CSOs and grass-roots women on WLR policies, laws and frameworks as well as strengthening their capacity on how to engage with duty bearers through claim making process on WLR by having their voice on promoting and protecting women land rights-related issues.

The evaluation established that one important component of the WIDGRA project was the support provided to strengthening knowledge on the AU WLR instruments as well as advocacy capacities of civil society organizations (implementing partners, rural women, etc.).

The envisaged capacity changes, as identified in the programme project proposal refer to :

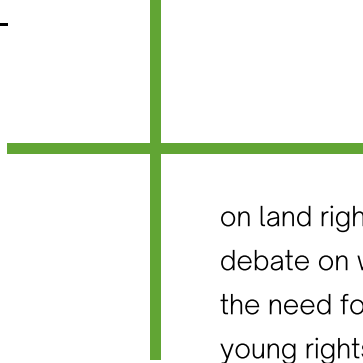
1. CSOs and the rural women are aware of their land rights as captured in the legal instruments at the regional and national level,
2. Rural women are empowered and have a voice,
3. Civil society is strong, transparent and capable of engaging with the decision-makers.

The findings established that capacities, competencies and capabilities for advocacy and having the voice of CSOs and rural women on WLR (capability to act and commit) was enhanced and results demonstrated during the project included;

- Enhanced competencies of CSOs and rural women to conduct policy and legal frameworks analysis on WLR and identify the gaps for advocacy with duty bearers.
- The WIDGRA project applied a ToT approach, but also other capacity development interventions implemented by PROPAC (and also by implementing partners themselves) showed characteristics of a ToT approach to enhance the advocacy capacity of stakeholders at the national and local level on women land rights issues.
- Increased understanding of the lobby and advocacy chain, how to identify and define advocacy targets, the advocacy objective and develop an effective strategy to reach the advocacy aims with the particular advocacy targets (the evaluation documents show that more CSOs, grassroots women organizations have developed advocacy plans or actions following the leadership transformative trainings and TOT trainings on community engagement with duty bearers on WLR, using more formal advocacy tools (score-cards, shadow reports) and planning, develop clearer messages and tailor messages to different stakeholders, based on systematic stakeholder mapping).
- Enhanced knowledge of advocacy tools (score-cards) and select appropriate lobby and advocacy interventions on promoting and protecting women land rights.
- Enhanced competencies to enter into a dialogue with the private sector and with the government on promoting and protecting women land rights (this was demonstrated in Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Mozambique).
- Enhanced knowledge of specific regional, national laws, policies and frameworks on women land rights e.g. the Maputo protocol to advocate for the implementation of the provisions in the laws.
- Enhanced skills for advocacy like communication, managing emotions, negotiation skills, conflict management, confidence, motivation, awareness of unjust social practices and increased self-esteem (through the leadership transformative training).

The WIDGRA project contributed to expand civic space and improve the working relationship and collaboration between CSOs and government in the 8 countries. In Kenya for example, the Ministry of Land has invited WIDGRA affiliated CSOs to provide their contribution on policy discussion related to gender issues concerning land ownership, CSOs working in the WIDGRA project have been able to advocate to have women included in the county land boards where critical decisions are made on county land.

At the regional level, the WIDGRA project through the inter-agency steering group comprising of Oxfam, ILC, PLAAS, ActionAid, WILDAF, Tanzania Gender Networking Programme, the Kenya Land Alliance amongst other stakeholders was able to mobilize rural women to voice and action




on land rights through the Kilimanjaro Initiative. The Initiative is credited with rejuvenating the debate on women's land rights across the continent and creating a renewed sense of urgency on the need for action. It strengthened capacity and exposure on women's land rights especially for young rights activists and rejuvenated the spirit of collective action. This initiative scored highly on IAP's ability to create specific moments and spaces for rural women to voice their priorities and participate in decision-making processes about land and natural resources in highly impactful ways. In Uganda, the Kilimanjaro women initiative, for example, encouraged CSOs to re-align themselves into a coalition to leverage collective voices regionally and nationally on matters such as land-responsive budget advocacy. This is based on the recognition that laws and frameworks to support such a focus are present; however, the government may not set aside earmarked budget funding for women's land rights priorities. As well, CSOs may simply not know these legal and framework details, even where they do exist.

The WIDGRA project supported rural women to attend and participate in AU events by providing opportunities to grassroots leaders to amplify the project message as well as engage directly with continental and regional decision-makers and key development actors. The project leveraged on the existing regional platforms and forums to raise awareness on women's land rights during broader conversations surrounding topics like corruption, gender-based violence etc.

The project was able to engage at the Gender is My Agenda Campaign (GIMAC) {Comprising about 55 national and international organizations,} through supporting 6 women from Kilimanjaro regional women representatives which aimed to create a space for civil society to monitor the implementation of the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (SDGEA), mainly by holding bi-annual Pre-Summit Consultative Meetings to the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government. The GIMAC consultative meeting deliberations led to the proposition of recommendations and later the development of a joint recommendation on WLRs that was presented during the July 2018 AU Summit. The recommendation by the Oxfam team as stated as follows "Adopt emerging frameworks on Land Governance that eliminate corruption when women seek to access, acquire and own land and promote policies for their inclusion in essential legal documentation and resource allocation especially for women in rural areas."

The project created awareness through the 16 Days of Activism Against Sexual and Gender-Based Violence and linking to Women Land Rights in East Africa through the Zinduka festival. During the festival, the project through Oxfam highlighted the project interventions in advancing women land rights in Africa and drew the nexus on how land tenure, its access and ownership impact negatively women and leading to gender-based violence in African male-headed households.

The WIDGRA project enabled Partners to engage with policy makers at the high-level event on Agriculture and Women Land Rights, Oxfam supported five (5) rural women to attend and



meaningfully engage with the policy makers during the event hosted by His Excellency President Olusegun Obasanjo, to mobilize and engage various stakeholders and move the EWA agenda forward particularly paying close attention to the WLR as a critical pillar in realising the agricultural productivity for the continent.

Development of a paper by the project through PLAAS (lack of policy implementation holds back women's land rights in Africa) and presentation to the high-level conference on Land Policy in Africa Women's land rights in Africa which brought about a critical discussion on WLR issues amongst the MPs from ECOWAS which they agreed with the findings from the paper that while impressive steps to address women's land rights issues have been taken in recent African policies, implementation is yet to receive sufficient political backing, due to widespread patriarchal values and limited financial and human resources.

Finally, the WIDGRA project engaged with parliamentarians and shared the findings of the Women Land Rights Scorecard 2019. This resulted in insightful exchanges on the barriers to securing WLR in Africa and suggested solutions to achieving access, use and control of land by women.

Efficiency

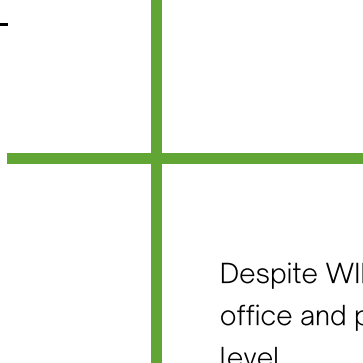
Organisation efficiency: The WIDGRA project was implemented through a decentralised governance structure, aligned to the decentralised and programmatic way of working at Oxfam, and appropriate procedures were put in place to balance well between central steering and local flexibility and to maximise efficiency.

- Oxfam Novib was the contract holder, and played a contract management role vis à vis the donor. In addition it participated in the strategic management in close coordination with the other members of the steering committee, Oxfam Pan Africa, PLAAS and PROPAC'.

The WIDGRA project was complex to manage, in terms of relations with WIDGRA members in the country office and with the implementing partners, in terms of the budget repartition between partners and accountability lines between WIDGRA members and their partners which was generally well done by the country Oxfam offices-WIDGRA teams, paying attention to relationship building and partnership management.

Organisational efficiency was challenged because of the varying lack of presence of Oxfam programmes/offices in certain countries like Togo hence not having a presence at the country level and all supporting specific local partners. However, appropriate management solutions were found that were conducive to efficient programme management.

Contract management at implementing partner level is managed by the Oxfam Pan Africa Programme based in Kenya and arranged via annual or bi-annual contracts, and this system worked well, though there were some challenges reported in regards to approval for project extension from the EU which affected project implementation in a certain period.



Despite WIDGRA's complexity and the varied relationships to be managed in the coordinating office and partner countries, roles and responsibilities were clear to the partners at the country level.

Programme management procedures and accountability requirements are assessed by implementing partners as clear and lean and were to a large extent respected. Budgets were released on a timely basis. Delays were reported by some country consortium staff interviewed, about financial reports and as such delays in financial disbursements from Oxfam to partners caused by delay in approvals.

Staff turnover at implementing partner level also affected the implementation of the WIDGRA project due to institution memory and different approaches introduced by the people replacing the exited staff. At the Pan African level staffing remained intact at PLAAS and PROPAC only Oxfam faced several transitions. Project coordination was affected in some way given changes of project coordinators at Oxfam

The project delayed for almost seven months during the Covid-19 period and six months before the project started hence affected to a larger extent the level of time required to implement the project which in turn affected the achievement of the results.

Process efficiency was monitored by using indicators for progress, and in the reflection and learning workshops the activity planning based on the logframe and outcomes, also on the process level, was discussed and integrated into the following year's planning. Unfamiliarity with the instrument, with its use and purpose in lobby and advocacy trajectories, delays in the implementation of the lobby trajectories (explained by internal factors but also because of contextual factors), but in most cases, these have not affected negatively efficiency (not requiring more time, human resources or budget for implementation of activities).

Impact

Policy and/or practice changes

The project contributed and supported the launch of the ECOWAS Parliamentary Network to Advance Gender Equality in Agriculture and Food Security. The establishment of a parliamentarian network to address gender and social inequality in agricultural investments and promote best practices to protect land rights and facilitate inclusive local development is one remarkable result of continental advocacy work under WLRIDGA. It is also an indication of synergies created with other key actors in the sector.

The project has strengthened the capacities of CSOs who in turn have been able to use the knowledge and skills to engage with duty bearers on women land rights. In Mozambique, the land registry system is normally done at the provincial level which makes it difficult for rural women to access these services when they require land registration services. WILDAF of the CSOs who underwent the training was able to write a petition to parliament to review the policy and domesticate land registry services to the district due to the constraints it causes before one get their land registered due to distance, cost, and rigid system. The discussion was active in parliament and when this policy is amended it will be a great milestone that the WIDGRA project would have contributed to.

In Kenya, Kericho, three Sisters who had been disposed of their land by the relatives were able to repossess their land which was as a result of CSOs petitioning the Ministry of Lands. The CS in the ministry issued a letter of urgency to the matter for the case to be heard and a key government official from the Ministry of Lands was present during the entire process. The ruling was given in favour of the three sisters and in a record time of two months, a title deed was issued to the sisters due to strong partnerships between the CSOs and the Ministry of Lands.

There were many tangible results informed by the Oxfam International working together with FIDA Kenya realized by the CSOs. A woman was reported in Kakamega County who had been denied land access but through FIDA using an advocacy approach, the woman eventually succeeded in acquiring and accessing the land. In Nyeri, a CSO member of the Nyeri Youth Board Forum was in cooperated to join the Nyeri Court Users Committee. In Kakamega recently there was a case of a widow facing eviction from her land immediately after the husband died. The Kenya Alliance for Rural Empowerment (KARE) took up the matter with FIDA through Kakamega DCI and the case is currently progressing well and faster.

Six sisters were awarded a share of their deceased father's estate by the High Court in Kericho in a landmark judgement delivered in 2017. Photo Courtesy of the National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC).





Change in Social Norms on Women Land Rights

In Kenya, Laikipia, the evaluation established that a ranch was registered to community land where women above 18 years were included as equal shareholders in the community land where previous traditional practice, community land was only entitled to men due to the traditional patriarchal community values. This initiative was supported by GROOTS Kenya which is an indication that through concerted and continual efforts there could be a change in WLRs even with more reserved communities.

Land Boards-Inclusion of women in Land Boards through progressive advocacy on women land rights and that women should be engaged in meaningful contribution in land governance since they are the majority of the victims on issues related to land violations. Through WIDGRA project support, eight women are currently members of the sub-county land board in different counties in Kenya.

Sustainability

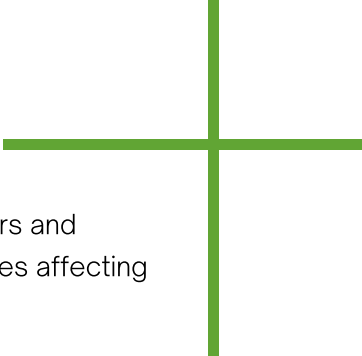
Institutional sustainability of the programme results was assessed as high, as the WIDGRA project aligns to the mission, strategies and policies of stakeholders involved (CSOs, government, grassroots women organizations and to a certain extent also private sector -at least the frontrunners), research, knowledge materials and toolkits (scorecards) have been made available that are used as a reference by the different stakeholders.

WIDGRA project leaves a legacy of strengthened women land rights associations and groups, but more support is needed for them to become fully operational and self-sustainable.

WIDGRA project partners have influenced relevant changes in government approaches and procedures and had also laid the ground for future government decisions at various levels to consider women's land needs.

In general, when the WIDGRA project has not materialized in concrete changes at the policy level, the project has laid the ground for future actions to be taken, especially in those countries where new government administrations are starting.

Sustainability of WIDGRA project achievements regarding culture varies across countries, being stronger in Ethiopia, Kenya and Cameroon. In Ethiopia, it was taboo for women to talk about women land rights issues, this has been abolished and women are now actively on women land rights discussions at the community and policy level. In Kenya, through GROOTS Kenya support there was the registration of one of the ranches to community land where all members of the community have an equal share to the land including women who are above 18 years. Community land has always been under men ownership. In Cameroon, empowered rural women who were trained through the WIDGRA project have been able to engage with traditional leaders on women land rights issues and the traditional leaders acknowledging that they equally require the training to empower them and make decisions in regards to land ownership aligning to the regional and national laws, policies and frameworks.



In Tunisia, Oxfam through a participatory process worked with local CSOs and leaders and developed an advocacy strategy that would work on socio-cultural and political issues affecting WLR issues as well as address WLR issues.

Programmatic sustainability

WIDGRA goals and activities are well aligned to the mission, strategies and other programmes that partners are implementing, contributing to the sustainability of the programme's legacy.

A sustainable contribution of the WIDGRA project has been to encourage collaborative linkages among stakeholders, especially through multi-stakeholder platforms, but their sustainability depends on the willingness and interest of its members, and the availability of funding.

WIDGRA project also leaves a legacy of research production, knowledge management and toolkits (score-cards) that can become references for rural women, CSOs, government decision-makers and private sector stakeholders.

Through ToTs in different areas, the WIDGRA project laid the ground for new individuals and groups to benefit from further training, although the continuation of this work is difficult to anticipate.

Exit strategies

In absence of an exit strategy in the design of the WIDGRA programme, partners come up with a variety of organisational approaches to ensure the sustainability of the programmes' legacy.



CHAPTER ONE:

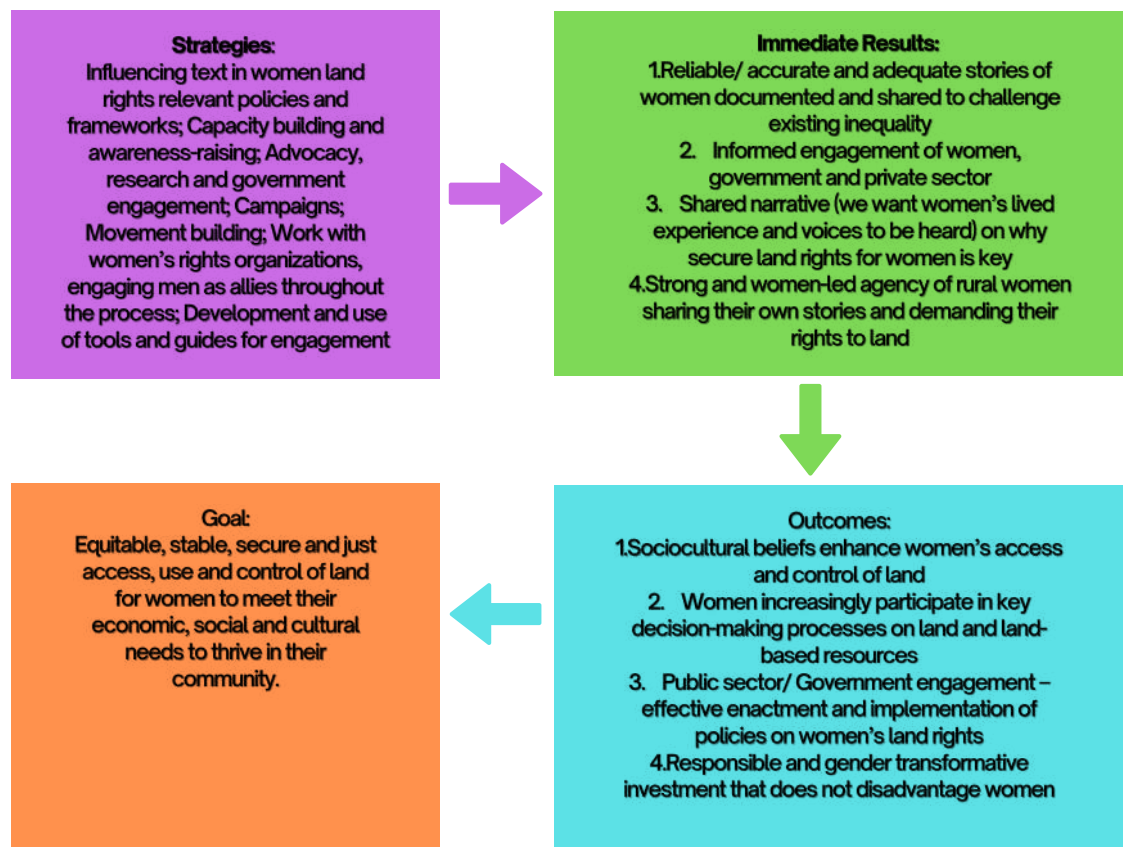
PROJECT BACKGROUND

1.1. OVERVIEW OF THE WIDGRA INTERVENTION

To realize equitable, secure, stable and just access and control of land for women, Oxfam and its partners through the WIDGRA project aimed to engage power holders at all levels: government, private sector, women, men, civil society organizations and networks. This aimed to ensure the enactment and implementation of progressive laws and policies that secure women's rights to land and land-based resources.

The WIDGRA project focused on: strengthening spaces and tools for women to equally drive the agenda on how land is used, accessed and/or protected; challenging the structural and systemic inequality that deny women their rights to land; created platforms for women to document and share their stories on land and tenure rights while demanding gender-responsive investments in land. The project also focused on driving policies, laws and investment approaches that support and strengthen women's land rights, and help to ensure that they are implemented effectively and comprehensively. The approaches will aid in increasing women's participation in decision-making, deconstruct negative sociocultural beliefs and increase the political will to support women's equal rights to land and natural resources.


Figure 1: Oxfam Women Land Rights Model



1.2 PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES OF THE END TERM EVALUATION

The objective of the evaluation was to assess to what extent and how WIDGRA and their in-country implementing partner organisations have progressed in reaching sustainable results as formulated in the results framework of the specific country pathways during the period 2017-2020. In particular, the evaluation seeks to assess the relevance, effectiveness, sustainability, impacts, best practices and learnings of the programme, related to changes the programme has contributed to concerning: (a) capacities for lobbying and advocacy of implementing partner organisations as well as grassroots women organizations, and (b) agendas, policies and practices of government and key actors in women land rights.

1. Given the timelines provided and resources available for this evaluation, the evaluation will focus on the local country CSOs supported by the project interventions, local (national) government officials targeted by the project design framework, regional level policymakers and influencers and multi-lateral and multinational institutions in the eight targeted countries.
2. The evaluation consisted of four phases: (1) an inception stage, (2) a desk study phase, (3) a primary data collection phase, involving eight country case studies and an analysis of the interventions conducted at the regional level, (4) a phase of consolidated analysis, reporting, debriefing and communication.

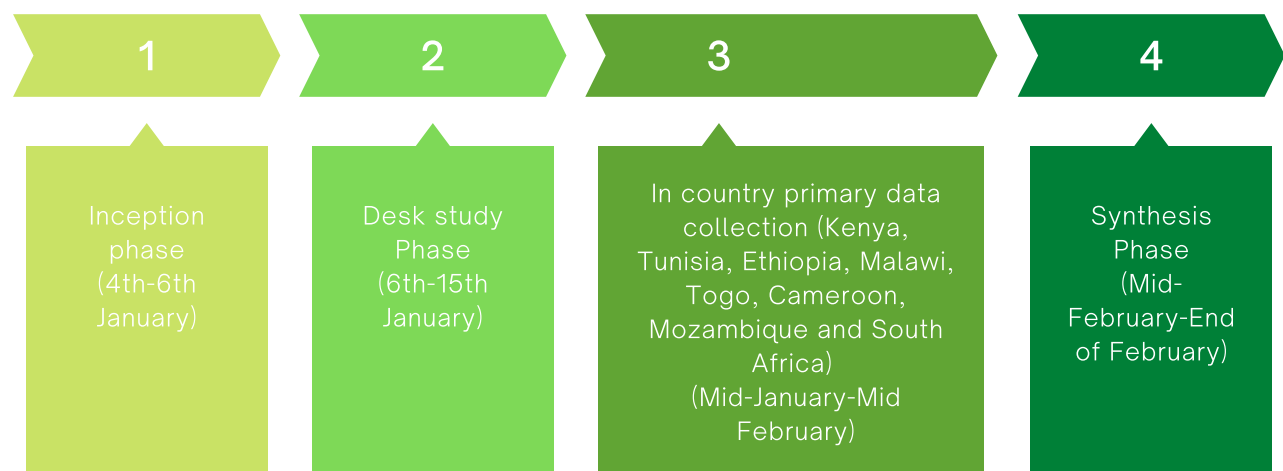
- 
3. This report synthesizes the findings of the previous phases of the evaluation and provides recommendations to WIDGRA members to increase the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of future related interventions.
 4. Assessment of project effectiveness-This did not concentrate at the operational level but critically examined effectiveness in achieving the project objectives.
 5. Impact Identification-The evaluation focused on the impact level results and not output level, looking at the change experienced by the different project stakeholders and beneficiaries. This also examined contribution to policy and legal development at the in-country and international level.
 6. Sustainability: The evaluation looked at areas of value addition and what can be carried forward with project stakeholders and beneficiaries.
 7. Human-centred approach: The evaluation aimed to identify key change stories of how the project impacted the beneficiaries through the Most Significant Changes stories across the countries of implementation. Where possible the consultant will also carry out case studies.
 8. Evaluated the partnership models implemented in the project and made recommendations where applicable.
 9. Identify and analyse program challenges and how they were mitigated and make possible recommendations.

CHAPTER TWO:

METHODOLOGY

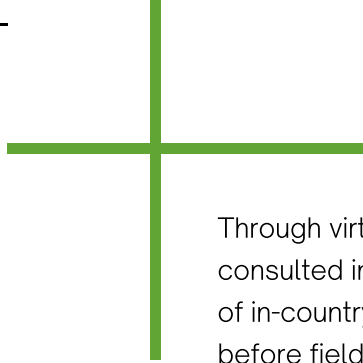
The end term evaluation adopted the process-tracing method which is a qualitative research method that attempts to identify the causal processes – the casual chain and the causal mechanism – between a potential cause or causes and an effect of an outcome. Process tracing was combined with Contribution Analysis to evaluate the contribution of the intervention towards observed outcomes. Both methods allowed the evaluators to make causal inferences about cause and effect using non-counterfactual approaches based on similar analysis tools: causal mechanisms. The advantage of combining both methods is that it broadens the analytical tools to assess, with a higher degree of confidence, the plausibility that the intervention or other factors have contributed to the observed outcomes. This combined approach also makes the evidence base for any causal claims made during the evaluation completely transparent.

Figure 2: WIDGRA Evaluation process



The evaluation process comprised of four main phases:

- 1. Inception phase:** During this phase, the evaluation team analyzed the overall results framework and the thematic pathways; developed the conceptual framework (with paramount concepts of lobby and advocacy, civic engagement and capacity development of the targeted population i.e. rural women); developed an evaluation framework and evaluation questions, with its sources of information; conducted a first overview analysis of the harvested outcomes; identified potential country case studies; identified additional learning questions; and develop a detailed evaluation plan.

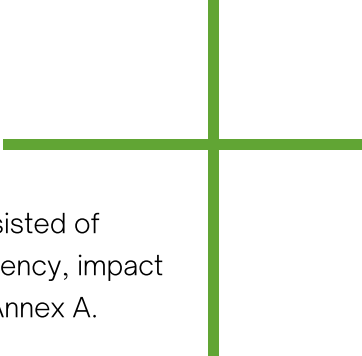


Through virtual workshops and semi-structured interviews, representative stakeholders were be consulted in this phase (representatives of WIDGRA member organisations, and representatives of in-country implementing partners). A detailed inception report was submitted and approved before fieldwork.

2. **Desk study phase:** During this phase, the evaluation team reconstructed and analysed the operationalisation of the overall interventions in relation to the results framework in the various country results framework; collected and preliminary analysed evidence from the implementation of the programme in the eight countries; reconstructed an overall approach ‘in use’ for the programme; developed comparative understanding of the programme in the countries; identified key countries to be selected for in-depth assessments (together with WIDGRA programme manager); and presented provisional findings further validated gaps that were be filled during in-country data collection. The desk study will also be allowed to fine-tune the methodologies, identify stakeholders that would be consulted and developed the data collection tools that would be used during the country assessments. A desk study report with additional summary reports per each of the eight countries will be submitted at the end of this phase. In-country primary data collection: During this phase, in-depth assessments of the WIDGRA program in Kenya, Tunisia, Ethiopia, Malawi, Togo, Cameroon, Mozambique and South Africa were conducted but not concluded. Highly participatory processes were carried out with the involvement of QuadExcel consultants and in close collaboration with WIDGRA program country offices. Two workshops with implementing partners were organised in each country (one startup and one validation workshop), and semi-structured interviews were conducted with implementing partners and external stakeholders (government, any other sector representatives). Eight summarized country reports will be submitted at the end of this phase. The Outcome descriptions substantiation formed the foundation of other tools for data collection which include:

- i. Key Informant Interviews (KII): These were done with key government stakeholders, regional stakeholders including, AU and other relevant multi-laterals and regional institutions.
- ii. Focused Group Discussions (FGD): These were mainly done with the project beneficiaries and community leaders, key in establishing the change process.
- iii. Questionnaire: This primarily checked on the indicator targets and achievement as per the project log frame. The tool focused on the validity and reliability of data already collected in the life of the project. It also heavily focused on triangulating with the qualitative tools to build on the evidence to ascertain the figures
- iv. Most Significant Change Stories (MSCS): This focused on the generation of significant change stories by various stakeholders involved in the project.

3. **Remote interviews:** Some of the data were collected through remote interviews. This was reached after cautious analysis of various factors that may affect physical interactions. QuadExcel had put in place key technological needs to ensure this is possible including securing a virtual platform account. Field Work Activities and Timeframe: Originally, field visits were planned for 18th January-Mid February 2021. The outbreak of COVID-19 has affected international development assignments in many ways. One of them was through conducting field visits at least until travel bans in many countries end.



4. **Data Collection Tools:** The data collection tool for the baseline assessment consisted of qualitative tools informed by the OECD evaluation on relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability. For the full end-term evaluation data collection tools please see Annex A.

5. **Quality Control:** The data collection tools were developed, piloted and changes amended before fieldwork. Secondly, quality analyst conducted spot check verifications of the data collection. The Data analyst checked for alignment of responses according to the OECD criteria. A daily check analysis of the qualitative data was categorized by themes which were key in developing the final report.

6. **Limitations:** The evaluation covered all the countries but was not able to interview the same number of stakeholders in all the countries. This was also informed by the level of interventions per country and the availability of respondents. This may have contributed to more information from some countries during analysis and in reporting.

CHAPTER THREE:

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

3.1 ANALYSIS OF RELEVANCE

WIDGRA Project LOGFRAME

1.A programme logframe was developed for the WIDGRA project, implemented through country programmes that in practice worked as independent programmes and as such differ in terms of focus based on the baseline reports and scorecards, subjects, outcomes, etc. The overall WIDGRA project logframe consisted of three main objectives, has been guiding the development of country programmes. The programme was implemented through a decentralised approach, with each country selecting country-relevant approaches and interventions informed by the project objectives and envisioned changes.

The project design angled out three key areas of expertise and the applicants i.e. Oxfam, PLAAS and PROPAC brought in unique expertise in terms of advocacy on women land rights, research and policy engagement on women land rights, community trainings on women land rights and advocacy. The applicants were situated in different countries but were able to communicate and develop the proposal. Whilst the applicants working in different locations were able to conceptualize and develop the project the engagement of the implementing partners/CSOs was not strong at this stage. Some of the partners expounded that they had consultative meetings at the development stage but it was not strong. Some explained they got involved when implementation had started. Though there was some level of participatory approach in the programme design, the findings established that the Implementing partners were selected largely based on their former engagements with WIDGRA partners. Moreover, new partners were added to the programme in various countries during programme implementation, but a clear contribution analysis to the pathways of change was not affected. The partners largely implemented in silos and did not draw from each others' strengths. The context of women land right issues is very different in each of the countries and this needed to be examined to ensure effective implementation. Whilst this may not have been adequately carried out, the country representation tried to encompass the diversity in Africa by picking counties from the North, South, East and Western African to gets a glimpse of how culture, religions and governance and context affected WLR issues this was supported by a respondent that felt that Africa, in general, was facing gaps on WLR issues and thus there was a need for more efforts to cover the whole continent. On the contrary, some of the respondents felt that this was spreading too thin given the lean resources in the project for more tangible results they felt the project should have been concentrated for greater efficiency and effectiveness.

It is a delicate balance that needs further analysis especially with key stakeholders on the next implementation phase.


Engagements with the respondents intimated that the project capitalized on countries that had already started work around Land Rights, with some being very specific about women land rights issues. The WLR movement is rife and the fact that the AU charter was approved called for further actions at the national and community level to now enforce this further.

Some of the respondents felt the project design was extremely ambitious in terms of scope and activities to be implemented. Implementation was also considered linear or consequential, some of the activities were also designed to be repeated periodically which given delays at project start was not visible. The context was very different for linear approaches. This had profound repercussions on the implementation process that resulted in adaption and reduction of project targets.

It emerges that the co-applicants were very clear of their mandates and their budgets but this was not as clear to the implementing partners and may have contributed to the delays at the project inception phase. The working structures were also not clearly laid out which further compounded the delays at the start of the project. The positive element was where there was no clarity a consultative process was employed that enabled take off and compensation of time resources on some activities. The project may have also experienced delays in funds disbursement as a result of delays in approval. Inception meeting brought in all project stakeholders to enable deliberations on the implementation and expectations of the project. This could have created some efficiency and build on a greater understanding of the stakeholders thus providing a clear implementation path. The delay in implementing the inception meetings could have contributed to some of the delays in kick-starting the project in some of the countries.

The Trainer of Trainers (ToT) approach could be regarded as efficient in that if the ToTs were aptly equipped they would reach out to more women and community members given the spiral effect. The ToT was not a new concept in totality but was a build-up from earlier efforts depicting the evolution of partnerships in WLRs from 2012 from Oxfam and the Kilimanjaro initiative thus the project worked to maximize on existing structures and tools rather than starting afresh ensuring continuity and efficiency in some of the processes.

2. The country programmes are the result of a good situational and context analysis, selected and specified approaches offer a relevant response to the identified challenges concerning the baseline findings, scorecard reports, the position of rural women and CSOs in regards to knowledge on AU WLR legal, policy and frameworks, the civic space, and are alignment to ongoing sector reform and/or government policies, as described in the country cases. The development of the programmes at the country level is based on the interpretation of the logframe indicators, making a distinction between several levels of change, referring to output, capacity change, behaviour change, outcome and impact, which are visible in almost all programmes and milestones developed at country level.



Although the WIDGRA project only used logframe but not the theory of change approach, interviews confirmed that the distinction between these levels helped implementing partners to understand the difference between activities, output and outcomes, and in being more specific on identifying expected change from advocacy trajectories, with specific attention to what capacity and behaviour change is envisaged. The programme approaches and targets at the country level are formulated in general terms, leaving sufficient room for flexible implementation.

3. In all countries, relevant partners were selected to implement the programme, shown by their relevant thematic expertise and track record, the networks they are involved in and/or their access to grassroots organisations. Specific knowledge on AU instruments and advocacy capacity was varying among the implementing partners and varying between the WIDGRA project countries, with countries that had included partners with specific advocacy expertise and countries where overall advocacy and claim-making capacity needed to be built or strengthened.

4. Ownership of the logframe and developed programmes at the country level by partners is limited, explained by the fact that not all the partners were not involved during the design phase and because the logframe was new for most of them. The partners needed to become familiar with the flexibility that comes with the advocacy programme and key changes/ milestones to track, which is visible in the evolution of the discussions and adaptations done on the changes demonstrated in results during the consecutive annual learning events. The partners interviewed confirmed having experienced sufficient autonomy and decision power to adopt the new approaches where needed.

5. As the advocacy programme approach for influencing the legal environment on WLR was still new for some WIDGRA members and partners, some weaknesses in the design of the approaches could be noticed. The evaluators observe that the advocacy programme approach on influencing WLR legal environment at the country level was narrowed down to a discussion on the interventions. The interventions to some partners are not sufficiently explicit on how the change will be brought about, and/or on the relationships between the different envisioned changes and advocacy targets, and how these mutually relate and influence. Furthermore, most country advocacy strategies do not show synergies or alignment between the selected changes, as shown in the following table, and in some cases even within specific pathways of changes. Implementing partners were usually assigned to one specific pathway of change, based on their track record and ongoing projects, with partners often operating in different geographic regions and/or involved in different intervention areas and sectors (e.g. Malawi, Togo). This resulted in a rather siloed approach and a project-based way of working (per implementing partners and per WIDGRA member). There was also no alignment between the pathway of change at the country and regional level, which made linkages between southern, western, eastern and advocacy efforts less explicit.

Table 1: Overview of the level of synergy between Pathways of change in the WIDGRA countries

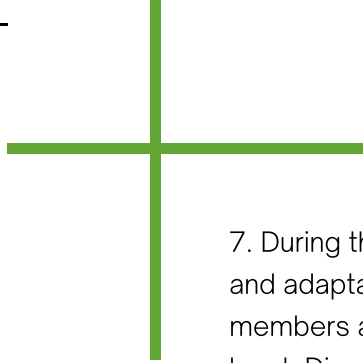
<i>Strong synergy between pathways of change</i>	<i>Medium synergy between pathways of change</i>	<i>Weak synergy between pathways of change</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kenya • Mozambique • Ethiopia • Cameroon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Togo 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malawi • South Africa

6. In most cases, the WIDGRA project was complementing existing programmes and projects with an advocacy component (the so-called ‘top-up’ programmes [1]), as shown in the following table. In five countries, the WIDGRA project was fully integrated into ongoing programmes, funded by WIDGRA members, which turned the dividing line between WIDGRA and other programmes blurred, especially when it comes to attributing achievements. The boundaries between what is and is not WIDGRA was not always clear in these cases. In seven countries the WIDGRA programme added advocacy component to existing projects/programmes of the partners. In Kenya, the WIDGRA programme funded projects in new sectors or geographic zones but continued collaboration with several existing WIDGRA members’ partners. In several countries, WIDGRA was also taken as an opportunity to continue collaboration with historical partners of WIDGRA members, which might on some occasions not always have been the most relevant partners for contributing to the envisioned changes of the country changes on WLR.

Table 2: Overview of the level of integration of WIDGRA in other programmes funded by WIDGRA

<i>High integration of WIDGRA in ongoing programmes (top-up programme)</i>	<i>Continuation of collaboration with existing partners (top-up programme)</i>	<i>WIDGRA targeting new topics, new intervention zones, etc., but building further on results of former WIDGRA members and partners’ programmes</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethiopia • Cameroon • Mozambique 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Africa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kenya • Togo • Malawi

[1] Top-up of existing programmes that are still running or top up of programmes that were phasing out.



7. During the annual learning workshops (that took place between 2018, 2019, 2021), reflection and adaptations on the advocacy strategies on advancing WLR issues were done by WIDGRA members and the implementing partners, with most of the adaptations situated at the operational level. Discussions on the milestones made on advancement on WLR were based on observed changes in the context, analysis of the progress towards the stated outcomes and reflection on the assumptions. Adaptations deal with the identification of new advocacy targets, identification of new activities (like the increasing number of workshops), dropping or adding implementing partners and/or reformulation of the outputs and outcomes making them more precise. In several countries, attempts were made to look for more synergy and a more integrated way of working, with the strongest results visible in Kenya, Tunisia and Ethiopia. In these countries, the strategies towards changes were strategically adapted, looking for more integration for stronger alignment and coordination between the different implementing partners and concentration of implementing partners activities in the same intervention region.

8. The assumptions included at the country level for each of the milestones in advancing WLR are mainly formulated in terms of capacity and willingness of actors, but relations between the different actors were not made explicit, and causal relations between expected changes were not formulated. During the annual revisions of the strategies, assumptions were adapted but this did not result in getting more insight into relations between actors or in causal relations. The assumptions have also not been guiding an explicit learning agenda.

9. Overall, this evaluation finds that the WIDGRA project through the various capacity building initiatives on transformative leadership and training on AU legal instruments is relevant to the CSOs and rural women towards holding the governments accountable for the implementation of women land rights issues as provided in their constitutions under the land laws and policy frameworks.

Context and civic space for mobilising support in holding government accountable for women land rights

While all eight case-study countries can boast laws and constitutions on paper that protect the basic women land rights of their citizens, the implementation of these laws remains a challenge. This is either due to a lack of political will or administrative inefficiency, deep-seated socio-cultural practices or simply due to a lack of awareness and information on constitutional and legal provisions. Holding duty-bearers to account over the implementation of laws and policies is a principal concern of very many of the CSOs interviewed for this evaluation. In turn, it is clear that the training on AU legal instruments through understanding and utilizing the scorecards developed, transformative leadership training have increased the awareness of participating organisations of their women land rights and the need to hold duty-bearers to account on the implementation of the same.

“

The transformative leadership training and scorecard training came at a time when we were struggling with how to best engage with the government on its accountability. The training and coaching ensured that we were able to execute the programme and have a cordial relationship with the government.

CSO Trainee in Ethiopia

”

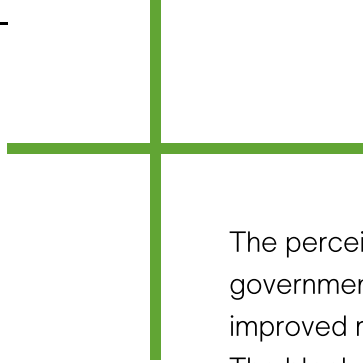
10. In some of the countries, governments had moved to restrict civil society space in some way in recent years, reflecting a global trend. In Ethiopia, for example, some punitive laws were recently amended that did not allow CSOs to work on advocacy issues. In Kenya, there have been several attempts by the State to constrain the civic and democratic space through punitive and prohibitive governance frameworks targeting civil society actors [2]. Given this context, the importance of establishing the legitimacy of civil society action and mobilising support from powerful stakeholders has never been so critical. All seven case studies except Tunisia who took a different approach and did not use the knowledge materials developed note that transformative leadership training is a highly relevant input to support CSOs in navigating this challenging terrain.

It is felt that the adaptation of transformative training and community mobilization training on women land rights issues content to the priority issues identified by participating organisations further maximises the relevance of the training to local contexts and realities. This was particularly marked in Cameroon (CNOP -CAM) and Ethiopia (UEWCA) where the training sessions have provided a space and forum for grassroots organisations (primarily women’s groups) to learn more about their land rights on issues and their relation to gender equality ranging from domestic violence to unpaid labour amongst other critical issues affecting them. The evaluation established that working with local government remains the most realistic means for grassroots women groups and CSOs to secure tangible changes on women land rights affecting the lives of their local communities.

11. Relevance of training to trainees’ perceived challenges and capacity gaps concerning mobilising support

The transformative leadership training, community sensitization on women land rights training methodology seeks to empower CSOs and cascade the training to the grassroots women groups to develop their strategies for effecting the change they seek. On that basis, it is worth bearing in mind the enablers and blockers which trained organisations themselves identified in their responses to baseline surveys before training.

[2] © 2016 Publication by Kenya Human Rights Commission: Towards a protected and expanded civic space in Kenya and beyond Page 7.



The perceived enablers to their ability to effect change include improved relationships with government/local authorities, engagement and partnership with other networks and coalitions, improved relationships with the communities they work with, plus improved knowledge and skills. The blockers identified include resourcing challenges and the lack of suitable staffing. The fact that the transformative leadership training curriculum to some extent addresses all of these enablers and blockers in some way suggests that it is indeed relevant to these organisations' perceived needs for effecting the changes they seek.

Strategies and interventions

Lobby and advocacy

12. Specific features of the L&A approaches applied in the WIDGRA programme are the investment in the dialogue between civil society, rural women, private sector and government, the promotion and/or facilitation of networking (at local, national and regional level), and more, in particular, the facilitation of the involvement of implementing partners and their constituencies in multi-stakeholder platforms at regional, national and local level. In several countries, the WIDGRA project contributed to enhancing civic space by bringing local government and local CSOs to the table. Furthermore, the WIDGRA project succeeded in building a bridge between the practice at the local level and the national advocacy level. In several countries, this looking for dialogue was highly appreciated by the private sector and government, as civil society had been often associated with a more confrontational approach. Within the WIDGRA project, the 'activism' strategy was less visible. Collaboration with media actors was noticed in Kenya and Mozambique.

13. With the WIDGRA project operating in some countries characterised by a restrictive political environment, an emphasis on dialogue, collaboration and coordination with government officials is indeed a strategic approach to bridge civil society needs with government interests and response. To that end, the complementary expertise of implementing partners often allowed the WIDGRA project to deploy a comprehensive approach for dialogue and engagement, including the provision of technical support to relevant stakeholders, research-informed recommendations, capacity building of different stakeholders (incl. advocacy targets) and/or dialogue through formal and informal meetings.

14. Evidence-based and evidence-informed advocacy was a strong feature in all country programmes. Research evidence (scorecard) was produced and leveraged by the WIDGRA project through the advocacy interventions. It was confirmed during the evaluation that evidence-based advocacy was critical to engage with government representatives. Evidence was not only the result of systematic research processes but resulted also from stakeholder consultations and practical experience.

15. Connections between local, national and regional advocacy were sought too, but rather limited and only visible somehow in five countries (Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, Cameroon, and Tunisia). No formal advocacy plan was existing to guide the collaboration between the local, national and regional team and most collaboration and information exchange took place on an ad-hoc base. Tunisia developed an advocacy strategy with CSOs but this is yet to be implemented.

Capacity development support

16. The second component of the WIDGRA project entails CSO capacity development and organisational strengthening for effective advocacy and cascading the training to rural women. Capacity development support aimed at (i) strengthening the advocacy capacity of local and national CSOs, and (ii) strengthening the voice and claim-making power of beneficiary groups (rural women).

17. Capacity development was implemented through a variety of approaches. It was provided through trainings (leadership transformative training, ToTs training on community engagement on WLR implemented by PROPAC and Oxfam in eight countries), annual learning workshops (including peer-to-peer learning and expert inputs), exchange visits. Where relevant tools, guidelines and materials were developed by WIDGRA project members and implementing partners to support advocacy on WLR issues, dialogues between CSO, government and/or private sector, A Training of Trainers (ToT) approach was applied. At the grassroots level, the WIDGRA project also aimed at promoting dialogues where they brought together duty bearers, local leaders and empowered women on WLR to discuss WLR issues.

Gender and inclusiveness

18. WIDGRA project alliance adopted a rights-based approach and aimed at supporting people in claiming their rights. Specific attention was given to enhance the claim making power of women, youth, indigenous groups and people with disability (PWDs), which was included in the generic programme strategy. However, strategies aimed at inclusiveness have not been incorporated into the country strategies. Also, apart from the strategies aimed at building capacity for disability inclusion, no specific capacity development strategies were developed about the inclusiveness of gender, youth and marginalised groups. But in most of the countries, specific attention was given to gender and in several countries also to disability mainstreaming, the inclusion of youth and/or indigenous groups. This was carried out in different capacities by the countries, a more structured approach should have been instituted.

Conclusion

19. The country programmes were highly relevant to the development objectives in the respective countries. They ensured relevance by selecting and specifying the most relevant strategies to achieve change to engage relevant opportunities and needs. The annual review process contributed to regularly reflecting upon and rethinking country programming, aligning strategies with country objectives and learning from experience.

20. A relevant and smart mix of advocacy strategies has been implemented, with a focus on dialogue, networking and multi-stakeholder processes. Connections between local, national and regional advocacy were rather limited. The investment in capacity development support was very relevant, taking into account that advocacy and claim-making process was relatively important to the achievement of the project objectives

3.2 PROJECT EFFECTIVENESS

3.2.1 ASSESSMENT of Effectiveness

3.2.1.1 *Enhanced Lobby and Advocacy capacity of CSOs and Rural Women*

One important component of the WIDGRA project is the support provided for strengthening the advocacy capacities of civil society organisations (implementing partners, CSOs women groups, etc.). The envisaged capacity changes, as identified in the logframe refer to:

- (i) Rural women are aware of their rights,
- (ii) Rural women are empowered and have a voice,
- (iii) Civil society is strong, transparent and capable of engaging with decision-makers and
- (iv) CSOs are organised in networks that can help them champion for their rights. These objectives have been translated into all country implementation plans.

Competencies addressed in trainings related to the effective lobby and advocacy (identifying lobby targets, stakeholder mappings, lobby and advocacy plans, etc.); dialogue with government and private sector; engagement in multi-stakeholder partnerships; engaging with local, provincial and national governments; monitoring of women land rights implementation guided the scorecard framework etc. Also, specific thematic knowledge was built with regard to rights of women on land issues through the five themes in the scorecard (the law guarantees women's equal land rights; women make a meaningful contribution to land governance; women's land rights provided by law are enforced and protected; the ability of women to assert their use, control and transfer rights over property control over the land they use; women's land rights are protected in the context of large scale land-based investments).

A qualitative assessment of capacity development results through training is presented, which is based on the available data from WIDGRA reports, interviews and workshops conducted during this evaluation.

Capacity changes

The WIDGRA annual reports and interviews with CSOs indicate that training, complemented with learning forums, have been very effective. Before the WIDGRA project, advocacy capacity among CSOs was uneven. Some of them had more track record on advocacy on women land rights issues and on organising and developing capacities of rural women, others had extensive reputation and capacity in linking research to policy recommendations, while others did not have specific experience with advocacy for women land rights issues processes. A further understanding of women land rights processes and incorporation of advocacy approaches into the strategic plan and implementation plans of partners have been widely acknowledged as a result of the WIDGRA project. The following capacity changes could be identified during interviews and workshops with CSOs, organised during the country case studies. Results described in the evaluation report are added in italic. The evaluators have used the WIDGRA adapted 5C framework to analyse capacity changes.

Table 3: Overview of reported capacity changes following the 5C framework

Capacities, competencies and capabilities for advocacy (capability to act and commit)

- Enhanced competencies of staff to conduct AU legal instruments analysis through the use of scorecard to assess provisions that protect women rights in their national legal frameworks.
- Increased understanding of the advocacy chain, how to identify and define advocacy targets, the advocacy objective and develop an effective strategy to reach the advocacy aims with the particular advocacy targets (the evaluation documents that more CSOs have developed advocacy plans or actions following the trainings received through WIDGRA project trainings (transformative leadership, scorecards, using more formal advocacy tools and planning, develop clearer messages and tailor messages to different stakeholders, based on systematic stakeholder mapping) in Cameroon the implementing CSO, CNOP-CAM was able to mobilize and establish a multi-sectoral platform which includes civil society and government and worked on the development of an advocacy plan which is expected to carry on WLR advocacy. The context in Tunisia was unique as socio-political and cultural dynamics affected project implementation as earlier envisioned, but the project turned the focus to capacity building and development of a robust advocacy strategy that would seek to work around socio-cultural issues affecting WLR and WLR advocacy. Ethiopia was able to link evidence from the scorecard to advocacy efforts. In Malawi, land rights advocacy is at a peak and the project was able to establish a CSO advocacy platform to push forward WLR issues).
- The ToT approach was able to improve competencies in community-level advocacy which was experienced at different levels within the project. The project concentrated on local influencers' e.g. local administration, opinion leaders, women leaders etc. were trained and expected to cascade this to communities. (In Kenya, one of the IPs through engagements with community members identified community members who seem vocal, passionate and committed to land right issues and used the TOT approach to train this group whom they labelled as the community land rights champions within this same group they have a specialized cohort who are the trained more elaborately on legal and policy matters of land, more like paralegals known as "watchdogs". The training thus ensured greater knowledge and skills within these segments who ensured advocacy at the community level especially on trust land and land injustices. In Cameroon, the ToT focused on the chiefs who are trusted and respected by communities especially the women. They were able to move advocacy at the village

level and created awareness on WLR issues at the community level that so over 100 women start working on securing their lands through registration of land ownership. Traditional leaders who are also respected in Cameroon were also involved. Capable structures have been established at the community level that will continue with WLR. Togo, WILDAF, enabled those trained to engage communities on land injustices and women access to land.

- Enhanced knowledge of advocacy tools (e.g. the scorecard to select appropriate advocacy interventions).
- Enhanced competencies to enter into a dialogue with the private sector and with the government, as well as the local authority (e.g. Ethiopia case study where the CSO was able to intervene and negotiated for a women group to get their land back which they had leased and the private sector was not willing to let go despite the lease agreement having expired) In Kenya the CSOs, were able to create a strong working relationship on the administration of community land. It supported the transition of one group ranch to community land in Laikipia, the multi-sectorial platform established in Cameroon is an example of a dialogue forum between CSOs and government on WLR issues. In Ethiopia CSOs have started engagement with the government on the Land Proclamation)Tunisia Oxfam was able to rally a coalition of CSOs to write a statement to react to a statement from the president that they felt had negative connotations on land inheritance.
- Enhanced knowledge of specific national laws and policies and international frameworks such as the Maputo protocol, African Land Policy Initiative's gender strategy amongst others. A case in point was Cameroon where the project played a complementarity role. The CSOs with strong legal backgrounds were able to improve even the knowledge of government officials on the country's land laws especially on reclaiming land -this served as a refresher contributing to increased knowledge and understanding of legal aspects related to land.
- Enhanced leadership skills for advocacy like communication, negotiation skills, conflict management and increased self-esteem (only in countries with which conducted transformative leadership trainings).

The training conducted through WIDGRA projects (transformative leadership training) also helped build softer skills such as confidence, motivation, and awareness of unjust social practices. The training in Malawi started late but engagement and sensitization have led to a more informed group. The land rights discourse is quite vibrant in Malawi and the trainings have

	<p>led to the CSOs involved actively participating in the discussions. In the Malawian context, clear follow-up mechanisms could not be established given resource limitations but they were able to revamp a CSO network/platform that now has a cohort with knowledge and skills on women land rights and is willing to advance issues of women land rights. In Tunisia, Oxfam Tunisia focused on building skills on technical advocacies because most of the local organizations had no experience in advocacy and how to engage decision-makers e.g. Members of Parliament (MPs),-implementation of campaigns, M&E of advocacy campaigns. They were trained on how to improve the context, how to conduct consultations with the community to identify priorities to work on women access to land/equality to inheritance, etc. It is during the advocacy training that the local CSOs worked on a local action plan/advocacy strategy.</p>
<p>Learning internally and adjusting to changing context (Capability to adapt and self-renew)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Though there were regular review meetings at the steering committee level for enhanced monitoring, there were limited in-country and inter-country learning reviews to adapt to the new changing context. There was no subsequent use of scorecards to assess the progress on indicators per the five themes which could have led to learnings from different countries on what worked well and how they could adjust the programmes to ensure all countries are moving towards meeting the targets. • Though the CSOs were able to develop advocacy plans, there was no regular review of advocacy plans from the project to assess the progress towards meeting the advocacy targets.
<p>Resources to be able to carry out the advocacy activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced capacity for fundraising (some CSOs e.g. in Ethiopia Union of Ethiopian Women Charitable Association (UEWCA) were able to leverage the knowledge received to identify key advocacy issues on women land rights and they were able to receive funding on women land rights issues) In Kenya the CSOs i.e. FIDA and GROOTS engaged with various platforms pushing for WLR issues and have positioned themselves which may eventually translate to resources to support their efforts in WLR work). • Increased collaboration between CSOs working in the WIDGRA project to prepare joint funding proposals.

Building and maintaining networks with constituents (Capability to relate)

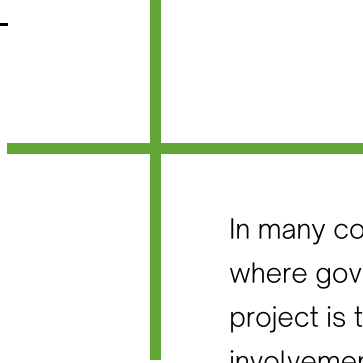
- Enhanced capacity to include interests and policy demands from rural women and their communities in advocacy agenda and to create space where rural women and their communities and government meet. This was demonstrated in Mozambique, Kenya, Ethiopia, Cameroon where CSOs were able to organize forums where rural women had an opportunity to engage with various government institutions (ministry of agriculture, land administration etc.) to have dialogues on issues of land registration and land distribution and pitch the issues they needed to be addressed.
- Multi-stakeholder networks were created and strengthened (in Cameroon, a network comprising of government including the ministry of land, CSOs, jurists, community representative was established to dialogue and advocate for women land rights; in Ethiopia, CSOs had in place a network championing for women land rights that is comprised of over 80 CSOs (Union of Ethiopian Women Association). The network was strengthened and mobilized to engage in advocacy around women's land rights issues. Tunisia through Oxfam Tunisia leadership also formed a coalition of local CSOs and created connections between the local organizations and national organizations.
- Enhanced joint advocacy and ability to speak with one voice. *This was a strategy that was embraced by most of the countries by either establishment of platforms, initiatives or networks to push forward WLR advocacy. Some focused on particular immediate concerns while some concentrated on wider WLR issues. Ethiopia has the land proclamation [3] which the scorecard identified also had some gaps, especially around land ownership in a polygamous setting and women not able to use title deeds as bank security. The CSOs picked this up in their advocacy efforts and are following this up for revision. In Tunisia Government officials - accompanied the national coalition-equality and inheritance to write an open letter to the Tunisian president. The Tunisian President on 13th August 2020 which marks national women's day, announced that he would not change the legal framework on inheritance. The CSO was able to mobilize a national CSO coalition that works on equality and land inheritance to react to this in a statement that they issued, they also pushed this on social media platform including Facebook and Twitter. Tunisian CSOs were largely working individually but the project through Oxfam Tunisia Office mobilized them to establish a coalition that would create a bigger platform for WLR advocacy.*

[3] Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Rural Land Administration and Land Use Proclamation No. 456/2005".

	<p><i>WILDAF in Togo was also able to develop an advocacy plan which focused on the Ministry of Lands and Ministry of agriculture and the key agenda was on women access to land.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Enhanced networking (increased cohesiveness and collaboration between actors to address common priorities; seeking collaboration with powerful stakeholders) Key actors were engaged in the process from the government (both national and regional), communities and CSO were engaged in the process and development of advocacy plans will enable streamlining advocacy work. A key actor that was minimally engaged was the media sector but the Cameroon CNOP-CAM identified a network of journalists to work within the WLR advocacy and developed a communication plan, this was one of the pronounced efforts in the project on media engagement. In Togo, WILDAF held several radio programmes/shows whereby they engaged community radios. This may have increased reach but the measurability and results were not clear. There is a need to continue building relationships with community radios as they draw more locals who also trust them. A fact sheet that was developed on the Togo WILDAF project served as a tool for visibility on the project that should be useful in building relationships.</i> <i>Enhanced competencies to engage in multi-stakeholder platforms and networks.</i> <i>Access gained to policymakers and private sector actors.</i>
<p>Guidance on advocacy issues and implementation (Capability to achieve coherence)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational guidelines are in place and used (logframe guidelines, PMEL, inclusion, dialogue with government and private sector)

1. Many results can be noticed concerning the ‘capability to act and commit’ and the ‘capability to relate’. CSOs and rural women have gained more knowledge and more ‘technical’ advocacy competencies on women land rights. In all countries subject to in-depth assessment, an evolution is noticed of CSOs moving from a more confrontational approach to investing in a dialogue with government and private sector actors.

“ In Kenya, it is reported that the transformative leadership training and use of scorecards have enabled CSOs to use dialogue and other softer ways of influencing powerful stakeholders on women land rights rather than traditional, more combative approaches and that this softer approach has paid dividend.
 (KII respondent)



In many countries, the WIDGRA project has contributed to creating or demanding civic space where government, private sector and civil society meet. Another strong feature of the WIDGRA project is the establishment or strengthening of local and national networks and the increased involvement of CSOs in national networks and national chapters of regional networks. This has resulted in increased credibility and legitimacy of CSOs, as confirmed in the eight implementation countries. “Trainees’ perceptions that their status and image in the eyes of local authorities has been enhanced is corroborated by responses from local officials interviewed.”

WIDGRA project contributed to enhancing fundraising capacities, but strong results have not been achieved yet. This was reported with one of the CSOs that were able to secure funding through identifying key advocacy issues from the training they received on scorecards and were able to successfully bid for funding which they are currently implementing.

Though fundraising has received limited attention in the eight countries, there is not much evidence yet of organisations that have been able to identify new donors or raise money through resource mobilisation initiatives as a result of women land rights advocacy issues identified through the training they received.

Effectiveness of capacity development support strategies

2. As described under the chapter on relevance, different formal capacity development strategies have been applied in the WIDGRA project, combined with informal learning, which have mutually strengthened each other, for example, scorecards trainings that have been complemented by images women facial expressions and graphs was made possible throughout WIDGRA project implementation. A key tool that was developed in the project was the scorecard which was designed to be implemented at the community level with local women and would establish the status of WLRs within a particular region and ultimately the country. The scorecard was developed through a consultative process enabling simplification, use of infographics and translation into three key languages i.e. English, French and Portuguese. The scorecard was implemented in a participatory way making it a powerful tool. The scorecard was designed to be implemented annually to enable support to advocacy on women land rights in the eight countries. GROOTS Kenya intimated that they used the scorecard alongside other tools e.g. the Kilimanjaro women charter of demands (Actualizing women's land rights in Africa) to establish WLR status and this advised their advocacy at the regional and national level thus they did not use the scorecard as a stand-alone tool but integrated it with the existing tools. In Kenya, the IPs used the WIDGRA platform to advance their advocacy efforts. In Malawi, it was noted that the scorecard was implemented by consultants and later on the women felt that they should have been allowed to take lead in the process. This affirms the fact that the scorecard was a simple tool that was easy to understand and was readily accepted and owned by community members. The women in Malawi had also received some training and felt adequately equipped to interrogate WLR issues within their country. In the Malawian context, the downside was that the detailed scorecard outcomes were not shared with the in-country office nor the community women, what was shared was a summarized version with no particular scores.

This did not truly depict the issues as raised from the communities. WILDAF in Togo implemented the scorecard but there have been staff transitions and there is no clear picture of the scorecard implementation and results. This also touches on institutional capacity within the project. Oxfam Tunisia Office underwent the training and more specifically how to adapt to the local context and review legal frameworks, they also received the monitoring tools. There should be strong follow up to how the tools will eventually be utilized by the different countries.

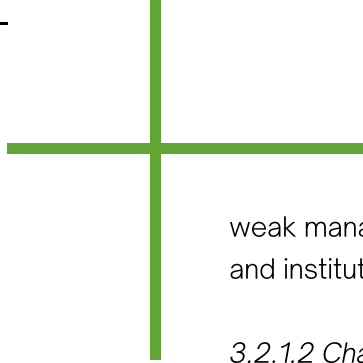


Inset: Part of the Delegation at the Launch of the Feminist Research on Securing Women's Land Rights at Golden Peacock Hotel in Lilongwe in August, 2018. Photo Courtesy of Akina Mama wa Africa.

3. The capacity development provided by the WIDGRA project has been assessed by CSOs, rural women groups interviewed as relevant and effective in its approach, content and methods. The combination of formal trainings and learning-by-doing and coaching of members was widely appreciated by the people interviewed. In most of the countries, peer learning did not take place because they were no annual learning workshops.

4. The WIDGRA project applied a ToT approach in order to enhance the advocacy capacity of CSOs and of rural women. The training curriculum is online and was deemed effective and useful and adapted to the African context. In this evaluation, it is noticed that the follow-up of ToT was not always sufficiently guaranteed. In Malawi (e.g. through the ToT training was conducted, there was no follow up provided). The evaluation described that “more follow-up and consolidation with groups already in receipt of training might elicit stronger results. In Malawi, there is a question as to whether the delivery of relatively few training courses to large numbers of organisations might have undermined the impact of the women land rights training.” A respondent also felt that the training duration was short and there was a need for a longer mentorship training programme with inbuilt refresher courses.

5. Organisational characteristics that can negatively influence advocacy capacity were not targeted by the WIDGRA project, like for example staff turnover, internal governance issues,



weak management structures, weak prioritization of follow up activities, fragile financial situation and institutional sustainability, etc.

3.2.1.2 Changes at the level of regional and national government actors

What follows presents results related to different levels of change: enhanced dialogue, awareness-raising, debates being shaped, and policy changes, as well as an analysis of some of the enabling factors and barriers.

6. WIDGRA project contributed to expand civic space and improve the working relationship and collaboration between CSOs, rural women, government and regional bodies like the African Union. Moreover, in Cameroon for example, the dialogues and sensitization about women land rights as provided in the constitution led by one of the partners clarified the roles and responsibilities of the different agencies of government (Ministry of Land, Ministry of Agriculture) CSOs, rural women which led to the establishment of the multi-stakeholder platform that is working on women land rights which brings together duty bearers and right holders known as the District Monitoring Committees on Women Land Rights, a mechanism for ensuring harmony and partnerships between district local government, CSOs and rural women in development interventions towards advancing women land rights. In Ethiopia, a similar multi-stakeholder platform was created where it brought together key government agencies working on the land, CSOs and rural community where there have been able to work together in championing women rights.

7. Through the recurrent organisation of dialogues and consultations and the organisation of visits to the field, the WIDGRA project generated spaces for engagement between government representatives and rural women, especially at the regional level, and heightened policy makers awareness and understanding of rural women's reality on land rights. WIDGRA project set up and facilitated regular policy dialogues and consultations on women land rights sector challenges, between rural women and relevant government agencies but they were not able to enjoin private sector representatives. These events gave policymakers the possibility to know and connect with new organisations on the ground. Several regional virtual dialogues were attended by representatives of relevant national ministries as well (e.g.: in 2020, the minister for lands in Cameroon attended a workshop on women land rights led by one WIDGRA project partner who was trained through the project). In Mozambique, the trained rural women and CSOs jointly wrote a petition to the national assembly to demand policy amendment on registration of title deeds which is done at the provincial level making it very expensive and difficult for the rural woman to get her title deed but rather have the registration done at district level which will be more accessible to many rural women who wants to have their land registered. The petition was acknowledged and the motion has been discussed in parliament waiting for the conclusion. This is one of the epitomes of success towards influencing policy for the WIDGRA project.

All these encounters were unique opportunities for policymakers to learn directly from rural women about their land right. An interesting outcome of these engagements took place in Kenya, where representatives of rural women were appointed to the sub-county land boards that govern issues of land management at the sub-county level who are also engaged in planning and

budgeting of the land board committees and have influenced budget allocation for delivery of land-related services. In Cameroon, the government was also involved in the trainings i.e. ministry of lands, agriculture, etc. this strengthened awareness and understanding of land legal aspects and established working relationships between CSOs and government. This has also impressed on the government to focus on land documentation issues and check on and divisions as highlighted by one government official interviewed.

8. Through a variety of strategies, WIDGRA project partners engaged with government representatives at the national, regional and local level. Through technical assistance, capacity building and facilitating dialogues, WIDGRA project implementing partners and CSOs developed bonds of trust with government agencies working in different policy areas, and at a different level (from national to local). For instance, engagement with representatives of the Department of Agriculture of the Ministry of Land in Ethiopia led to the development of a women land rights manual that included a documentary video that was developed through the WIDGRA project which highlights the different women land rights issues faced by the women on key advocacy messages to inform the changes [4]. 1. The manual developed recognizes the documentary, scorecards as a model and reference in technical aspects on women land rights and the training is intended to be replicated into the government agencies including the judiciary that have a great influence and impact on women land rights at the national level. At the regional level, the project was able to involve women in AU meetings, where women were able to engage with policymakers on land right issues. The women also contributed to pushing the Kilimanjaro charter of demand which the AU has welcomed and is now working on how countries can utilize/domesticate this. The project also brought evidence for key WLR discussions to Africa Land Policy conferences both in 2017 and 2019 and other regional blocs. For example, on behalf of the consortium, PLAAS researcher made a presentation titled ‘Women’s land rights in Africa: Does implementation match policy?’ at the Conference on Land Policy in Africa: Winning the Fight Against Corruption in the Land Sector: Sustainable Pathway for Africa’s Transformation, November 2019. The same presentation was made at the learning event on women’s land rights organised by IGAD in December 2020.



Emmanuel Sulle making a presentation during the African Land Policy Conference in Abidjan.

[4] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EXEyGE99ciQ&t=420s>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EXEyGE99ciQ&t=420s>



His Excellency President Olusegun Obasanjo giving his remarks during the High-Level Meeting on the Initiative Empowering Women in Agriculture (EWA) took place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on February 09, 2019, on the margins of the 32nd African Union Summit.

9. The project enabled partners to engage with policy makers at the high-level event on agriculture and Women Land Rights. Oxfam supported five (5) rural women to attend and meaningfully engage with the policy makers during the event hosted by His Excellency President Olusegun Obasanjo, to mobilize and engage various stakeholders and move the EWA agenda forward particularly paying close attention to the WLR as a critical pillar in realising the agricultural productivity for the continent.

10. WIDGRA project also established relationships with governments at the local level in Cameroon (to inform local governments on their role in promoting women land rights). This was done through the local government (chiefs) who are powerful gatekeepers in the community. The chiefs' capacity on women land rights was strengthened and acted as champions of WLR in the community. The chiefs were able to cascade the training to the community which enabled more women to understand their rights. Though it took time to change the social norms of the chiefs because of the nature of patriarchal values in the communities, the chiefs were able to be the champions for women land rights. This approach of identifying gatekeepers as WLR champions was identified as one of the best practice for championing WLR due to the influence the chief has in influencing social change since they are many respected members of the community.



His Excellency Moustapha Cissé Lô, the speaker of the ECOWAS Parliament, giving remarks during the launch of the network.

At the regional level, the WIDGRA project has provided input in the development of result indicator framework on various themes through the scorecard developed. The scorecard is one of the central achievements of WIDGRA project, where WIDGRA and particularly PLAAS contribution is very high. The scorecard enabled the country implementing partners to assess the status of WLRs in their countries at the community level and contribute to advocacy from community to regional level. WIDGRA project through continental advocacy contributed to the launch of the ECOWAS Parliamentary Network to Advance Gender Equality in Agriculture and Food Security. The establishment of the parliamentarian network to address gender and social inequality in agricultural investments and promote best practices to protect land rights and facilitate inclusive local development.

11. WIDGRA project contributed to and shaped critical legislative debates and advocacy for legislation to rural women interests. In Mozambique, CSOs and rural women jointly drafted and submitted a petition to devolve the land registration process from the provincial level to the district level. This was discussed twice in the national parliament and resolutions are almost agreed upon in the favor of decentralization of the land registration process. Successful contribution to and shaping legislative debates that protect rural women's interests are also documented for Kenya and Ethiopia.

12. The project co-hosted a learning exchange visit that was dubbed: "Learning from Experience: How an African parliamentarians' network is looking to mainstream gender considerations into agriculture" Through the exchange learning event, the project team highlighted to the parliamentarians the findings of the Women Land Rights Scorecard 2019 which resulted to insightful exchanges on the barriers to securing WLR in Africa and suggested solutions to achieving access, use and control of land by women. A recurring theme during the learning exchange was the importance of addressing low literacy levels, particularly for rural women. the learning event recommended for enhancing dialogue, raising awareness and ensuring civil society engagement can play a transformative role in moving toward gender equity on land issues. Parliamentarians and civil society representatives also highlighted how important it is to



A section of ECOWAS Parliamentarians following through the presentations

engage a wider audience in the policy design and implementation process, which would help ensure improved buy-in and results.

The project facilitated the participation of the Kilimanjaro Initiative The Beijing +25 platform for Action conference: to review the progress of implementing the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPfA). The WIDGR project team provided technical input to the development of the Africa CSOs' position statement on the Beijing +25 Review. The review included for the first time the status of the implementation of WLR policies and called upon African governments to secure WLR across the continent. The project, led by WILDARF, contributed the following policy asks to the review: "Promote women's land rights by full implementation of Kilimanjaro Charter of Demands and implementation of the AU 2025 commitment of having 30% of land in the hands of women by 2025. Importantly African government should launch a moratorium on foreign land acquisition and appropriation."

13. Several contextual factors affected WIDGRA projects capacity to achieve further concrete policy and institutional changes. The long time it takes for policy changes to materialise, policy makers' capacities, and limited vertical and horizontal government coordination were identified as critical. In Ethiopia, Kenya, Cameroon the main hindering factors were the government's slow response, corruption, lack of knowledge on land rights and the power dynamics within the different ministries (e.g. the co-existence of two strong positions regarding then enforcement of a human right approach to land, one that relies on national current laws and another one that wants to stick to regional legal frameworks). Although WIDGRA project advocacy has not always translated into concrete changes at the policy level, in many cases it laid the ground for future actions (e.g.: WIDGRA project's contribution to the shadow reports, red flags on scorecards under the laws and policies themes report on the assessment of negative side effects of policies that are not rights-based and to mitigate the negative side in the land sector for women). In Ethiopia which has nine regions, these regions are governed by different policy frameworks based on the context of the community. One of the region, Afraha, has some non-progressive policies that hinder the rights of women to advance on land rights. e.g. in case a man dies, the land is inherited by the children and if the woman does not have children and decides to relocate from the area then she automatically loses the ownership of the land hence infringing women


land rights. Though the national legal frameworks on land are progressive on women rights, some regions policies are still non-progressive hence infringing women rights.

13. The recognition of the WIDGRA project and its partners as legitimate stakeholders in the women land rights sector respond to a range of factors (both contextual and internal to the WIDGRA project). In Ethiopia, it was indicated that the CSOs political environment in the last five years, while still challenging, has been more open to open to collaboration. In Kenya, Cameroon, South Africa and Ethiopia through the selection of partners, WIDGRA project partners have also demonstrated the capacity to reach out to the community and mobilise their participation, which increased government representatives' interest in their work and needs. Also, the WIDGRA project targeted issues that were aligned with the government agenda for the land e.g. in Kenya which created interest from policy makers in the WIDGRA project and its partners' work.

14. Oxfam Pan African Programme co-sponsored the hosting of the Zinduka festival. The event is an annual art and social justice festival aimed at bringing together citizens for the East African countries to converse on issues of regional integration. The event brought participants drawn from grass-root organizations, local communities, national and regional CSOs, artists, activists, public intellectuals, policy-makers, farmers, members of the media, traders, and business people which was held during the 16 Days of Activism Against Sexual and Gender-Based Violence and linking to Women Land Rights in East Africa. During the festival, the project through Oxfam highlighted the project interventions in advancing women land rights in Africa and drew the nexus on how land tenure, its access and ownership impact women negatively leading to gender-based violence in African male-headed households. The session also took the participants through the various approaches the project is utilizing including the use of evidence-based advocacy through the scorecards in engaging the policy makers and duty bearers to ensure a follow-through for the implementation of the commitments made by governments concerning WLR. This was followed by a plenary discussion. It was noted women across all the East African countries (Kenya, Uganda, Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania, South Sudan) as a result of either, lack of political participation, civil war, lacking or poorly implemented policies or lack of education have for many years faced discrimination in owning accessing and utilizing land productively. Therefore, it was concluded there is a need to organize around women's rights as a region and support existing efforts at all level. The evaluation established the project leveraged on key events to draw a link and create awareness on women land rights which was an innovative approach to empower the targeted stakeholders in the project and create synergies.

Expected outcome R1.1: CSOs have sufficient capacity and tools to monitor governments and RECs on AU WLR instruments and other relevant WLR laws and policies

15. The evaluation noted that there are variations in the depth of engagement on this. A key tool that was developed in the project was the scorecard which was designed to be implemented at the community level with local women and would establish the status of WLRs within a particular region and ultimately the country. The scorecard was developed through a consultative process enabling simplification and translation into three key languages i.e. English, French and Portuguese. The scorecard was implemented in a participatory way making it a powerful tool.



The scorecard was designed to be implemented annually to enable support to advocacy on women land rights in the eight countries. An IP in Kenya intimated that they used the scorecard alongside other tools e.g. the Kilimanjaro women initiative used it to establish WLR status and this advised their advocacy at the regional and national level thus they did not use the scorecard as a standalone tool but integrated it with the existing tools. In Kenya, the IPs used the WIDGRA platform to advance their advocacy efforts.

In Malawi, it was noted that the scorecard was implemented by consultants and later on the women felt that they should have been given the opportunity to take lead in the process. This affirms the fact that the scorecard was a simple tool that was easy to understand and was readily accepted and owned by community members. The women in Malawi had also received some training and felt adequately equipped to interrogate WLR issues within their country. In the Malawian context, the downside was that the detailed scorecard outcomes were not shared with the in-country office nor the community women, what was shared was a summarized version with no particular scores. This did not truly depict the issues as raised from the communities. An implementing partner in Togo implemented the scorecard but there have been staff transitions and there is no clear picture of the scorecard implementation and results. This also touches on institutional capacity within the project.

Ethiopia saw the scorecard as a tool for identifying challenges and solutions around WLR in the country. The information generated from the scorecard was seen as evidence and was used to engage the government in at least four dialogue forums. In the dialogues with the government, they were able to accept that there were gaps on WLRs especially on the dominant patriarchal thinking on land ownership, land encroachment and polygamy. Ethiopia has the land proclamation [5] which the scorecard identified also had some gaps, especially around land ownership in a polygamous setting and women not able to use title deeds as bank security. The CSOs picked this up in their advocacy efforts and are following this up for revision.

Some countries saw a clear connection between the scorecards and their advocacy advancement while this did not resonate with some of them.

At the regional level results have been achieved through strong PLAAS engagement. PLAAS was able to engage at the regional level as highlighted above. This created awareness with leaders now prepared to engage, the leaders /policy makers made statements this cannot be equated to influencing but the pan African team made efforts to move some issues and influence political will. PLAAS was also engaged in NELGA one-week training courses and carried out three sessions on women land rights in Cape Town, Zanzibar and Accra. Enabled key stakeholders to see the magnitude of the WLR issues to WLR issues the project contributed to the evolving debate and thinking on women land rights. Those impacted included judges from Ethiopia and lawyers from Southern Sudan who got new perspectives and intimated they would follow up on the issues in their countries through such activities the project worked on impacting the right people i.e. decision-makers and review of policies and laws.

[5] Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Rural Land Administration and Land Use Proclamation No. 456/2005'.

3.2.1.3 Changes at the level of private sector actors

16. WIDGRA project introduced a new concept of multi-stakeholder dialogue on inclusive women land rights and equality contributing to the evolution from confrontation towards improved dialogue between the private sector and rural women and helping identify synergies for mutual benefit. WIDGRA project contributed to install “the idea that through coordination and organization of private sector in LSLBI stakeholders and rural women for a common goal can lead to win-win situations” (KII, South Africa). This has meant a slight change of behaviours for the private sector with large scale farms. Though this was not vastly realized in the eight countries, a few successful case studies were realized. In Ethiopia, a private investor was able to return the land they had acquired from rural women as a result of a dialogue between the trained CSOs and rural women. The private investor had initially refused to return the land to the rural women group since he had invested in the land, the CSO negotiated and had the investment on the land paid back and the land was returned to the women group which they, later on, registered the land under the women’s group name through the CSO support.

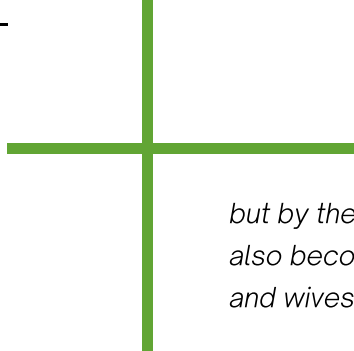
3.2.1.4 Changes at the level of Target groups (Rural Women) Please delete as a repetition

17. Through its various activities, the WIDGRA project strengthened the capacities and confidence of rural women in several countries to conduct advocacy and engage strategically in the public sphere and gained access to government and private stakeholders on women land rights. In many cases, like in Kenya, Cameroon, Mozambique and Ethiopia, the WIDGRA project was a response to the limited civic space that rural women enjoyed in their countries. Capacities in this area were developed both through training, meetings, workshops and by accompanying advocacy processes. For instance, in Cameroon WIDGRA project through CNOP-CAM trained more than 980 rural women and 20 men on women land rights. The women groups developed action plans and sought to explore and articulate their messages to the local land agencies, national and regional departments of land, agriculture and other government agencies. On the regional level too, as a result of advocacy by women groups in regional forums (Kilimanjaro women), a successful advocacy campaign was conducted which led to the establishment of multi-stakeholder platforms working on women land rights.

Rural women were frequently exposed to government officials and regional forums of different hierarchies and representatives in forums and organised dialogues, where they were able to share their needs and demands. These opportunities for dialogue and engagement also contributed to increasing collaboration between rural women and relevant stakeholders in the land and agricultural sector and access to government services and opportunities.

It was also reported that men were also involved in the programme with the intent of influencing their negative attitudes towards ownership of land by women. Men who were taken through training individually testified how their perceptions on WLR with some misconceptions and myths as “land belong to men and women belong to men” were positively transformed.

There is evidence pointing at men’s behaviour and attitude change through communication and sensitization of the public on land laws and policies. In Nyeri and Kakamega for instance, there were recorded cases where initially the old men were adamant about women land rights changes



but by the end of the project, they become the champions advocating for women land rights and also become role models and champions in implementing WLR issues through their daughters and wives.

3.2.1.5 Changes at the level of private sector actors

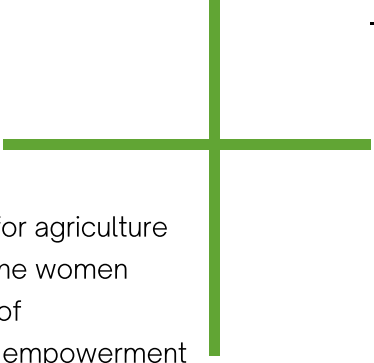
18. WIDGRA project introduced a new concept of multi-stakeholder dialogue on inclusive women land rights and equality contributing to the evolution from confrontation towards improved dialogue between the private sector and rural women and helping identify synergies for mutual benefit. WIDGRA project contributed to install “the idea that through coordination and organization of private sector in LSLBI stakeholders and rural women for a common goal can lead to win-win situations” (KII, South Africa). This has meant a slight change of behaviours for the private sector with large scale farms. Though this was not vastly realized in the eight countries, a few successful case studies were realized. In Ethiopia, a private investor was able to return the land they had acquired from rural women as a result of a dialogue between the trained CSOs and rural women. The private investor had initially refused to return the land to the rural women group since he had invested in the land, the CSO negotiated and had the investment on the land paid back and the land was returned to the women group which they, later on, registered the land under the women’s group name through the CSO support.

3.2.1.6 Changes at the level of Target groups (Rural Women)

19. Through its various activities, the WIDGRA project strengthened the capacities and confidence of rural women in several countries to conduct advocacy and engage strategically in the public sphere and gained access to government and private stakeholders on women land rights. In many cases, like in Kenya, Cameroon, Mozambique and Ethiopia, the WIDGRA project was a response to the limited civic space that rural women enjoyed in their countries. Capacities in this area were developed both through training, meetings, workshops and by accompanying advocacy processes. For instance, in the Cameroon WIDGRA project through the CSOs trained more than 980 rural women and 20 men on women land rights. The women groups developed action plans and received to explore and articulate their messages to the local land agencies, national and regional departments of land, agriculture and other government agencies. On the regional level too, as a result of advocacy by women groups in regional forums (Kilimanjaro women), a successful advocacy campaign was conducted which led to the establishment of multi-stakeholder platforms working on women land rights.

Rural women were frequently exposed to government officials and regional forums of different hierarchies and representatives in forums and organized dialogues, where they were able to share their needs and demands. These opportunities for dialogue and engagement also contributed to increasing collaboration between rural women and relevant stakeholders in the land and agricultural sector and access to government services and opportunities.

20. Women groups who had land-related issues in several countries have developed stronger bonds, sometimes formalising in new networks or associations, together with their bargaining and negotiation skills, which strengthened their position in claiming their land rights. In Ethiopia WIDGRA project through a trained CSO supported the registration and formalization of women’s



group as Voluntary Savings and Loaning Associations (VSLAs) who used their land for agriculture and the proceeds of agriculture are saved which acted as seed capital for VSLA. The women group had not registered their title under the women's group name and as a result of empowerment by the CSO, they registered the land and used it for their economic empowerment through agriculture.

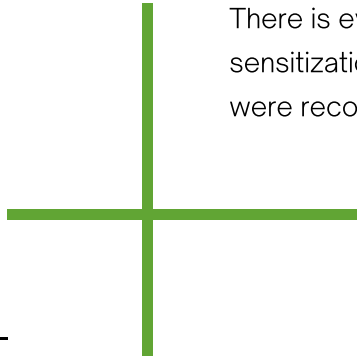
Although they need more support to further develop a business mindset in regards to economic empowerment, through training on bargaining and negotiation skills, these associations are now more aware of market demand and developed bargaining to get a fairer trade of crops, and can now play an important coordination role linking rural women with the private sector. Among other things, as a consequence of collective action, rural women in Ethiopia got more convenient loans from banks as a result of land ownership using the land as collateral to boost their livelihoods.

In Cameroon, the WIDGRA project through the trained CSOs helped organise and mobilise rural women, and develop their capacity to analyse their land rights' needs, prioritise issues for their advocacy agenda and engage the duty bearers at various levels to influence solutions to their specific land needs. This citizen-led approach is more sustainable in advocacy as the rural women are likely to invoke a quicker response from the duty bearers than CSOs. Overall, within the WIDGRA project, local organizations have strengthened their advocacy competencies as establishing and/or strengthening CSO networks is a feature in almost all WIDGRA project countries.

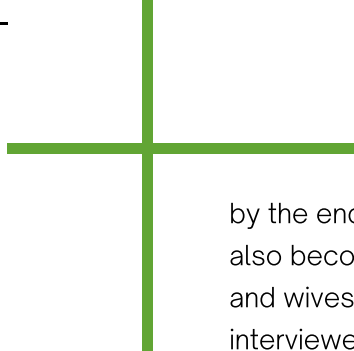
21. Reduced discrimination of women, and youth due to increased awareness creation and change of attitudes, and increased security of these groups on land. In Ethiopia and Cameroon, the sensitization activities on inclusion led by trained CSOs resulted in increased awareness about these groups land rights and how they have been systematically discriminated against and excluded from development initiatives.

In Togo, targeted existing women groups were reconfigured to be inclusive of women and youth, whose inclusion in the WIDGRA project's advocacy agenda consequently increased their access to land rights. Moreover, in Cameroon WIDGRA project through the trained CSOs supported and strengthened the customary land management system (through land committees) to guarantee the right to land by women and youth in tandem with the land law in the country, which has led to amicable and systematically documented resolution of numerous land-related disputes involving these groups, who were previously large.

In Kenya, it was also reported that men were also involved in the programme with the intent of influencing their negative attitudes towards ownership of land by women. Men who were taken through training individually testified how their perceptions on WLR with some misconceptions and myths as "land belong to men and women belong to men" were positively transformed.



There is evidence pointing at men's behaviour and attitude change through communication and sensitization of the public on land laws and policies. In Nyeri and Kakamega for instance, there were recorded cases where initially the old men were adamant to women land rights changes but



by the end of the project, they become the champions advocating for women land rights and also become role models and champions in implementing WLR issues through their daughters and wives. The Kilimanjaro Initiative is considered the most successful continental activity by all interviewed because of its immense success in mobilizing rural women to voice and action on land rights.

The Initiative is credited with rejuvenating the debate on women's land rights across the continent and creating a renewed sense of urgency on the need for action. It strengthened capacity and exposure on women's land rights especially for young rights activists and rejuvenated the spirit of collective action. This initiative scored highly on IAP's ability to create specific moments and spaces for rural women to voice their priorities and participate in decision-making processes about land and natural resources in highly impactful ways.

The scale of mobilization under the Kilimanjaro Initiative spurred continental action and awoke the need for stakeholders to build movements on land-related matters. In Uganda, for example, it encouraged CSOs to re-align themselves into a coalition to leverage collective voices regionally and nationally on matters such as land-responsive budget advocacy. This is based on the recognition that laws and frameworks to support such a focus are present; however, the government may not set aside earmarked budget funding for women's land rights priorities. As well, CSOs may simply not know these legal and framework details, even where they do exist. In any case, there remains an opportunity for more visible advocacy for gender-based budgeting by the government and for support of CSOs in understanding the existing (but usually unimplemented) governance frameworks.

The Kilimanjaro Initiative can easily be turned into a focal point for mobilizing and organizing Africa's efforts to promote women's land rights given the scale of its success. However, no significant planning or follow-up action has been forthcoming. Hence, the Initiative's numerous opportunities for follow-on action (such as organized efforts to measure progress, monitor commitments, or securing political support on the strength of the declaration) are in danger of remaining unharnessed. Kilimanjaro awakened the continent's actors and has consolidated their voices, but without well-designed follow-up, the gains made will be diluted and lose currency with time. It would seem essential for IAP and Oxfam as the lead organization on this continental effort to reclaim its coordination and organizing role in planning with its country offices and partners a concise set of no more than three meaningful and sustained follow-up actions as the highest priority. The actions would ideally be related to monitoring progress, monitoring commitments to specific actions on the part of regional actors, and securing in-country buy-ins from national actors (especially governments) to build political will across the continent, which would then be reflected at the Africa Union level.

3.2.1.7 Assessment of outcomes and contribution

22. During the evaluation, five cases were selected for a more in-depth analysis, including a contribution analysis. Performance stories are described in the country reports. The following table presents an overview of the validated outcomes and the assessment of the contribution of the WIDGRA project to the outcomes. More detailed information (incl. performance stories) can be found in the country case study reports.

Table 4. Featured WIDGRA Advocacy stories

<i>Country</i>	<i>Story</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Outcome</i>	<i>Contribution</i>
Kenya	Sub-county land boards	Through trainings and advocacy, the WIDGRA project enhanced knowledge on women land rights and provided technical recommendations to the county land boards to have women included in the sub county land boards since they are disproportionately affected by land-related issues and they need to be part of key decision-makers on land matters at the sub county level.	Strengthened capacity of the sub county land boards on women land rights led by the women champions in the sub county land board	High
Kenya	Repossessed land for three sisters	Through petition by CSO to the Cabinet Secretary of lands, three sisters whose land was grabbed by their brothers, were able to receive back the land which was registered under their names in a record time of two months.	Access to title deeds.	Medium
Kenya	Land lease agreement tool.	Jipange Youth Group in Kakamega Kenya developed a land lease agreement tool that has been adopted and currently being legally used by the Kakamega county government.	Use of Land lease agreement tool	High

<i>Country</i>	<i>Story</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Outcome</i>	<i>Contribution</i>
Kenya	Court Users Committee	In Nyeri, a CSO member of the Nyeri Youth Board Forum was in cooperated to join the Nyeri Court Users Committee	Women are using the courts to address issues of Women Land Rights.	High
Ethiopia	Reclaimed land from the private investor and registered community land for rural women	Through empowered rural women group and support by one of the trained CSOs, the women were able to negotiate and have their land back from the private investor which was later registered under the women's group name	Registered women's group land	High

23. For five cases, selected in the implementation countries case studies, a contribution analysis was done. The contribution analysis methodology supports the analysis of the advocacy trajectories and the collection of evidence of several factors that have contributed to the outcomes of the state, to assess the relative contribution of the project under evaluation. As documented in the case study in the 5 cases the contribution of the WIDGRA project was assessed as high (WIDGRA project implementing partners being the main drivers of change), in 1 case as medium (WIDGRA project implementing partners contributing meaningfully, along with other actors and factors). In all cases, the WIDGRA project has been necessary for bringing about the change. WIDGRA project implementation partners provided relevant and state of the art technical inputs to policy development processes trained CSOs and government actors working on land-related rights issues took up a facilitator role and/or accelerated debates and the implementation of national policies at the local level. In all cases, WIDGRA project implementing partners were crucial in bringing rural women's interest under the attention.

Expected outcome R1.2: Verified information available about the status of the implementation of AU WLR instruments and other relevant WLR laws and policies

Baselines and Shadow reports

There was mixed implementation around this. The production of shadow reports was largely dependents on having a national Land Report thus if there was none, it would be inconceivable to develop a shadow report. Malawi and Mozambique were able to produce Shadow Reports this could be attributed to the fact the land rights discourse in the two countries was currently strong in the two countries and they also had big land projects ongoing in the countries.


Tunisia Oxfam felt that the baseline evaluation provided key data on the situation of women on land and land resources in Tunisia. The general public was not aware of the problem and the data revealed that only six per cent of women in Tunisia owned land. This provided a clear picture of context and organizations working on equality inheritance, thematic areas and the stakeholders/decision-makers who can support the project. It also brought the realization that the Tunisian context and realities were different, it was not only laws but also a social problem issue where women should not talk about land issues. A different approach was needed to address the social and cultural norm and practices and work with the general public to change mindsets before moving the WLR issues.-

Expected outcome R1.2: Increased pool of trainers, community leaders and facilitators supporting WLR-oriented community engagement for evidence studies of pronounced cases of women losing out on land rights, and the respective land tenure system reforms and/or mitigation of the impact of LSLBIs on WLR

The TOT as outlined in the proposal was that the action designs a trainer of trainers (ToT) module on the use of the WLR evidence study tool. The module introduces the tool and gives a context background of WLR, land tenure systems and LSLBI impacts in Africa. This is used to train trainers who would then train women and communities on how to use the tool to carry out WLR evidence studies and engage with land tenure (reform) institutions and LSLBI (impact mitigation) actors.

The TOT modules also had variations in implementation across the countries. In the Kenyan context, the IPs working on land issues are more structured and organized at the community level. The IPs through engagements with community members identified community members who seem vocal, passionate and committed to land right issues and used the TOT approach to train this group whom they labelled as the community land rights champions within this same group they have a specialized lot who are the trained more elaborately on legal and policy matters of land, more like paralegals known as “watchdogs”. The training thus ensured greater knowledge and skills within the segments. One of the champions trained 32 rural women. GROOTs was able to create a strong working relationship on the administration of community land. It supported the transition of one group ranch to community land in Laikipia. This was carried out through dialogue with the collective power of community and government worked together with champions. The champions/watchdogs identified a widow facing disinheritance and first engaged in local mediation (ADR) which primarily seeks to solve issues at the community level by involving the courts. They were also engaged in a case where women faced dispossession. The Champions were also involved in Rumuruti where some women facing evictions met with legal officers from GROOTs who advised them on possible solutions. The women in turn advised the bigger team facing eviction and by the time of reporting, they were about to file a case.

The TOT training in Malawi started late but engagement and sensitization have led to a more informed group. The land rights discourse is quite vibrant in Malawi and the trainings have led to the CSOs involved being actively participating in the discussions.



In the Malawian context, clear follow-up mechanisms could not be established given resource limitations but they were able to revamp a CSO network/platform that now has a cohort with knowledge and skills on women land rights and is willing to advance issues of women land rights.

Ethiopia IP UEWCA saw at least 50 ToTs trained through an IP partnership process with PROPAC taking lead in the training of the TOTs on WLR issues in four regions. The IP noted that initially the CSOs did not know how to frame the land issues but after the training and attaining better understanding they were now able to articulate land right issues more clearly. A unique thing in the Ethiopian trainings was they also incorporated government officials, they realized a capacity gap in the government officials and since these are the key stakeholders to be involved they felt it would be prudent to also incorporate them in the trainings. This enabled them to establish relationships and ownership with the government. Another unique aspect within the capacity-building aspect of the Ethiopia CSO was institutional strengthening. The IPs realized that land rights advocacy was a long-term endeavour and thus alongside the training introduced resource mobilization and finance and budgeting to enable the CSOs to seek funds to continue engagement in the process.

Expected outcome R3.1: CSOs have increased advocacy skills to engage with governments, RECs, and AU on WLR

Transformative leadership trainings and advocacy at higher/policy levels
GROOTs was working on involving women in land rights the interventions enabled women to be part of land governance at the regional level.

3.2.1.8 Conclusions

24. WIDGRA trainings on transformative leadership and scorecards, complemented with learning developed through the implementation of interventions, have been effective in strengthening lobbying and advocacy capacities of civil society organisations, including women groups. They have contributed to creating and demanding civic space where government, rural women and civil society meet to discuss a variety of challenges in the land sector and find common solutions, moving from more confrontational approaches to the improvement of dialogue among stakeholders. As a result, partners have enhanced their legitimacy before other stakeholders in the sector.

25. To a lesser extent, the WIDGRA project contributed to enhancing the capacity of partners to diversify their funding sources, explained by the lesser attention paid to this area of capacity development, although some partners jointly raise funds from international donors.

26. Despite these achievements, the WIDGRA project lacked a comprehensive capacity development strategy on women land rights, especially in countries where the TOT approach was not implemented, which would have provided more cohesion to in-country activities (including peer learning and training of trainers), underpin explicit and intentional learning

trajectories, scale individual skills to the organisational level, and allowed to better monitor CSOs capacities development.

27. WIDGRA project has also contributed to organising and strengthening women groups, local and national networks, and raising awareness of their land rights and empowering their voices, thus generating further capacity to engage with decision-makers in their communities and sectors, and better working conditions. WIDGRA project also contributed to reducing discrimination of women, and youth in the land sector, especially at the community level, where processes and mechanisms to ensure their rights (for instance, access to land) were supported.

28. Through technical assistance, capacity building and facilitation of dialogues, WIDGRA project implementing partners developed bonds of trust with government agencies working in different policy areas related to land, also product of a strategic alignment between policy priorities and WIDGRA project targets. WIDGRA project also contributed to shaping critical legislative debates and advocacy for legislation to women land rights interests. However, not always WIDGRA project's work materialized in concrete policy and institutional changes, partly explained by factors such as the timing of policy processes, policy makers' capacities, and the limited government coordination, both vertical and horizontal.

29. The evaluation established that it is difficult to economically empower women without addressing women land rights issues hence this is the foundation of addressing inequalities in women. Most of the projects in the various countries have always been working on women empowerment projects while not addressing issues related to women rights hence the ineffectiveness of some of the projects in addressing women issues.

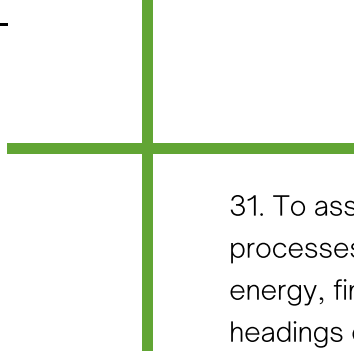
3.3 UNINTENDED RESULTS

Due to COVID-19, the project couldn't plan physical meetings on final lessons learning and training physically. The project also was not able to utilize the scorecard in the subsequent years to assess the changes in women land rights indicators per year hence analysis of project indicators through the scorecard could not be established.

Covid-19 also delayed implementation for almost 6 months due to delayed approvals from the donor during the covid-19 period hence this affected achievement of some of the project results.

3.4 ANALYSIS OF EFFICIENCY

30. Assessing a link between programme results and costs incurred is difficult for advocacy processes: Advocacy results are characterized by fuzzy causal relationships and contribution is often difficult to establish, effects over time are unpredictable or take place with a time delay and sometimes advocacy fails, it is hard to quantify and monetise advocacy interventions, resource allocation to differentiated results is complex.



31. To assess the economic use of resources, a qualitative assessment has been done of the processes and management procedures in place to monitor the efficient use of resources (time, energy, financial resources) in realising programme outcomes, which is described under the headings organisational and programmatic efficiency. Further, the M&E system was evaluated, with specific attention to if and how efficiency was monitored.

3.4.1 Organisation Efficiency

32. The WIDGRA project was implemented through a decentralised governance structure, aligned to the decentralised and programmatic way of working at Oxfam International, and appropriate procedures were put in place to balance well between central steering and local flexibility and to maximise efficiency. At the Oxfam Pan African programme office, a small team was coordinating the WIDGRA project, including a Programme Advisor, Project and MEL Coordinator and administrative staff. At the country level, the programme was managed by local Oxfam project teams, that were accountable to the Regional (Pan African office) and Country Coordinator, who played a central role in the management of the WIDGRA project. The country office was responsible for the allocations of funds, for the organization and coordination of capacity development support, and for monitoring and evaluation. In the countries studied, the Country Coordinators had a strong position in guiding the implementing partners and showed good leadership in managing the WIDGRA project.

33. Strategic management of the WIDGRA project was the responsibility of the committee comprised of PROPAC, PLAAS and Oxfam Pan Africa office. The country office team had regular contacts with the steering committee. The steering committee facilitated and convened annual reflection and learning workshops, and in the guidance of reporting and the use of monitoring tools. In 2020 quarterly virtual calls were introduced to have a quicker and smoother contact, between the Oxfam Pan African office both regional and in-country and some WIDGRA implementing partners' members to inform each other and to solve problems arising in the implementation. Through these virtual conversations were able to obtain quick feedback from the global office specialists. These contacts forged stronger horizontal connections between WIDGRA project members in supporting the implementation process and resulted in increased responsiveness of members to situations and questions from implementing partners.

34. In some countries like Ethiopia and Kenya, Oxfam had also a role as co-implementer and took part in the training of trainers interventions, building connections, participation in multi-stakeholder partnerships, convener of meetings, contribution in development of tools and guidelines, broker of relations, and linking the WIDGRA project to complementary initiatives in the region. PROPAC were also responsible for capacity development and acted as facilitators of capacity development support for all implementing partners (CSOs): facilitating capacity development assessments, engaging in a dialogue on capacity needs and evolutions, provision of capacity development support.

35. Organisational efficiency was further challenged because of the varying presence of programmes of WIDGRA project implementing partners in the different countries, Oxfam had no

presence in all countries (e.g. Togo) hence ineffective support to the specific local partners. However, appropriate management solutions were found that were conducive to efficient programme management. Through the programme coordinator, technical advice and support were smoothly integrated with ongoing activities and appreciated.

36. Contract management at implementing partners' level is managed by the Pan African office and arranged via annual or bi-annual contracts, and this system worked well. Funds were disbursed twice a year or once a year after signing the contract and after the periodic financial reports were approved. Oxfam International is the main contracting partner and most partners (Oxfam country offices) have bilateral agreements with Oxfam International.

37. There was no shared decision power on the allocation of the budget. The allocation to the implementing partners for the implementation period was decided upon in the Oxfam International office. Yearly budgets were decided upon by the WIDGRA project country office Programme Manager (Oxfam). Every implementing partner (Oxfam) submitted their yearly work plan that was informed by the overall WIDGRA project plan for the country. The yearly allocation depended much on the ability of the implementing partner in terms of the plan shared with the WIDGRA project. Budget management was organised according to the guidelines of the Oxfam country offices, which could differ between countries. Flexibility in the budget management system was perceived differently. In Kenya for instance receiving the budget for the entire year was appreciated as appropriate for managing advocacy projects, with unpredictable time frames and results.

38. Programme management procedures and accountability requirements are assessed by implementing partners as clear and lean and were to a large extent respected. The budget was released in time. Delays were reported by some Oxfam country office staff interviewed, concerning financial reports (and as such delays in financial disbursements from Oxfam international office to partners) caused by unfamiliarity with the instrument, with its use and purpose in advocacy trajectories, delays in the implementation of the training and advocacy trajectories (explained by internal factors but also because of contextual factors), but in most cases, these have not affected negatively efficiency (not requiring more time, human resources or budget for implementation of activities).

39. There was no horizontal collaboration in countries through learning workshops and partner meetings. If implementing partners were to know better about each other's work and role in the WIDGRA project, more coherence would have been established between interventions.

40. In several countries, staff turnover at Oxfam country and coordinating office and at implementing partners also slowed down programme implementation. This was mentioned by implementing partners e.g. Malawi and Ethiopia; regular staff changes didn't help to develop the programme and its interventions. In some case, there was no hand over of information and contacts to a successor which affected especially the advocacy activities and relation building.

3.4.2 Programmatic Efficiency

41. There was no clear strategy on efficiency monitoring, which is understandable taking into account the challenges to measuring efficiency as described in the introduction of this chapter. However, there was an implicit use of efficiency principles through monitoring, learning and adaptation. Process efficiency was monitored by using indicators for progress, and in the reflection and learning workshops the activity planning based on the outcomes, also on the process level, was discussed and integrated into the following year's planning. The use of indicators was adopted in the second year of programme implementation, to come with a relevant and more limited set of indicators to report on. Several strategies were used to improve the efficiency of programme implementation, as described in the following.

42. In several countries, the scope of the interventions was narrowed down to become more effective, in terms of human and financial resources. By decreasing the number of commodities to be worked on (e.g. Ethiopia), concentrating interventions in one geographic area (e.g. Malawi), and being more selective in the number of networks to invest in considering the added value of the network for the country programme (e.g. Kenya, Ethiopia).

43. In all countries the WIDGRA project was designed as a top-up programme, positioning advocacy supporting intervention for other (Oxfam) operations in the country and programmes, funded by other donors. The connection with other programmes was in most cases a deliberate choice and had an amplifying effect, though at the same time creating difficulties in identifying the added value and contribution of the WIDGRA project as well as its visibility. Another strategy to create a better scale of the operation was by seeking inclusion of a wide range of stakeholders with interest and motivations to improve advocacy, where CSOs partnered with or engaged in multi-stakeholder platforms and linked with the government agencies working on land-related issues.

3.5 MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING

44. The M&E system for the WIDGRA project was centrally steered and similar for all countries. Subsequently, M&E in the three years showed partners were used to tools and processes from a programmatic approach with log frames, objectives and indicators; reporting was the main purpose. To articulate outcome levels appeared to be difficult for partners who were used to formulating expected outputs. Only later in the implementation period, with support from the coordinating office, the reflection and learning took more shape. Partners started appreciating the new perspective on evaluating changes resulting from their work. Partners called this a valuable learning process for their staff and they intend to continue this way of working in future operations.

45. An appropriate mix of monitoring tools was made available to the IPs, and their use improved over the years, as such the WIDGRA project also contributed to strengthening their M&E capacity of advocacy. Tools include stories of change, peer feedback, indicator matrix, reflection tools and informal sharing and learning.

Stories of Change

46. The added value of the Stories of Change (SoC) is less clear. The SoC have mainly been used to assess progress at the programme level, e.g. there is a clear link between the SoC and the outcomes reported in the annual report, but less to support monitoring and learning at the project/partner level. The quality of the SoC is varying among partners, not consistently used and sometimes SoC were drafted by CSOs and not by the implementing partner (Oxfam). SoCs were important because of their qualitative approach, capturing results in a strategic and valuable way, however, the information presented several gaps in the advocacy trajectory.

SoCs were an important mechanism to rapidly identify perceived results, including for this evaluation, although some SoCs had to be complemented to get a more comprehensive understanding of the advocacy process.

Peer feedback & learning

47. Regular partner meetings and annual learning events had added value for partners. In some countries like in Kenya, the coordinator introduced instruments for peer feedback where partners commented and gave suggestions to colleagues on specific activities and questions, creating a more conducive environment for learning from each other's experiences and become more flexible in moving along changes in the context, tracking emerging developments and grasping opportunities. These meetings were also used for the harmonisation of strategies by implementing partners and for planning purpose. Partners would agree on the indicators of the different interventions. A framework for generating evidence was used and the lower-level indicators were measured by the implementing partners. This made the M&E participatory, bringing about learnings and was appreciated by partners.

Indicator matrix

48. At the start of the programme an indicator matrix was shared with partners, to report annually on these indicators for monitoring implementation.

49. In general indicators were linked to the country logframe and contextualized, and therefore in principle useful for informing adequately the implementation of the programme. However, the set of indicators gave little insight into the strategies, in what is happening on the ground within each pathway and within each project. The indicators combine quantitative and qualitative data, with dominant attention for quantitative data. The distinction between reach indicators (e.g.: number of stakeholders trained) and capacity indicators (e.g.: skills and knowledge developed) is difficult to establish and often a similar number is given. It is not clear how acquired skills and knowledge among CSOs, government and rural women are measured, suggesting an assumption exists that training linearly results in enhanced skills and knowledge.

50. The indicator system served mainly upward accountability and was less supportive for learning ownership of these monitoring data among the implementing partners.

Reflection tools

51. In the annual reflection and learning events, various tools were used to assess progress, like stakeholder mapping, which made the reflection on the programme more practical.



Informal sharing & learning

52. WhatsApp groups were created for the WIDGRA project and partners, to inform each other, and partners were showing with pictures and short messages what they were doing while they were out in the field. This was much appreciated by partner staff and created an informal peer learning platform. Informal contacts with Oxfam and the availability of Oxfam coordinators for advice and support was overall much appreciated and valued. Field visits by the coordinators and Oxfam staff and informal gatherings helped in the sharing between partner staff about their work and best practices.

3.6 CONCLUSIONS

53. The WIDGRA project was implemented through a decentralised governance structure and appropriate procedures were put in place. Programme management structures varied between the countries. The varying presence of WIDGRA project members in the different countries was challenging, however, appropriate management solutions were found. When the programme was on accelerated mode, there was sufficient room for co-creation and co-decision.

54. In some countries Oxfam had also a role as co-implementer and took part in training and advocacy interventions, which explains the substantial part of the programme budget spent by these country offices. PROPAC were also responsible for capacity development and acted as facilitators of capacity development support for all IPs. The joint planning and co-implementation role were new for some coordinators.

55. The system of contract management at the partner level, managed by the Oxfam pan African office for all partners worked well.

56. A lean M&E system was developed, based on the logframe and combining data-collection on a limited set of indicators with new tools such as Stories of Change. The set of indicators and the stories of change have been useful for monitoring progress at the programme level and for upward accountability but have given little insight into how change happens within each project and as such were little used to support learning.

57. As the WIDGRA project was designed as a top-up programme, the connection with other programmes had an amplifying effect, though at the same time creating difficulties in identifying the added value and contribution of the WIDGRA project as well as its visibility.

Analysis of sustainability

1. The sustainability of changes resulting from WIDGRA's project work, as well as the strategies that the programme and its partners have designed to enable that sustainability, can only be analysed for the countries subject to in-depth assessment. It was indeed not possible to identify elements of sustainability through the desk study since information regarding sustainability strategies was rather limited in the WIDGRA project reports.

Institutional Sustainability

2. Institutional sustainability of the programme results is assessed as high, as the WIDGRA project aligns to mission, strategies and policies of stakeholders involved (CSOs, government and to a certain extent also rural women organization), research and toolkits have been made available that are used as a reference by the different stakeholders including the government of Ethiopia who have adopted the scorecard and documentary produced by Oxfam on women land rights as part of the manual.

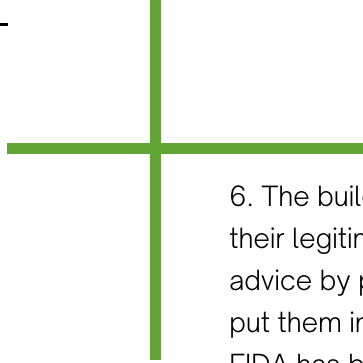
3. WIDGRA project partners were able to strengthen and embed women land rights approaches in their organisations and activities. Generally, the WIDGRA project has selected implementing partners (CSOs) that had the capacity and competencies compatible with the ambitions of the programme. Through several training opportunities and the implementation of strategies to advocate changes at the policy level on women land rights, advocacy knowledge and competencies have been further strengthened, partners have incorporated advocacy tools and methodologies, and a women land rights lens and practice have been embedded in partners sectorial programmes and expertise areas. Partners in Ethiopia, Cameroon, Togo and Kenya have acknowledged that the strengthened women land rights approach will be useful in other current and future interventions, for developing proposals, and also to scale-up and scale-out of changes achieved under the WIDGRA project. To support this work, partners count on a legacy of resources produced and circulated within the WIDGRA project which in some cases have been translated to local languages (the scorecard/transformational leadership manual was translated in several languages e.g. French in Cameroon and Togo).

4. While it was not the purpose of this evaluation to assess the acquired competencies within the organisations, it's worth sharing information to that end included in this evaluation. The report states that more follow-up and support is needed of organisations' application of the learning from WIDGRA project trainings to sustain/scale up the benefits, increase the numbers of people engaged in the women land rights activities, and institutionalise the tools, strategies and methods to minimise the risk of losing capacity over time, especially when staff turnover in many organisations is so high. "However well designed a single training programme may be, it is unlikely to change the organisational culture without further follow-up (for example through peer-to-peer learning, refresher courses, repeating courses aimed at new staff, or ensuring that larger organisations can hold their courses for all staff/volunteers following a training of trainers course)". It was further stated that "concerning further training of their members and stakeholders there was a strong view from all three countries [6] that organisations would struggle to find the funds for this on their own."

5. Gender inclusion has also been incorporated into organisational policies and staff training.

In Cameroon, institutional changes have also been seen in the area of gender, where partners indicated making their internal procedures more inclusive (e.g.: human resources recruitment, and incorporating an inclusion lens in their research design (e.g.: by including PwD in data collection) or considering quotas for PwD in activities.

[6] Benin, India, Kenya



6. The building also in their previous trajectory, in the past years, WIDGRA project partners saw their legitimacy enhanced through increasing demand for participation in events and technical advice by policymakers. Partners also became more recognised in their spheres of work, which put them in a better position to continue doing women land rights work. In Kenya, for example, FIDA has been invited to provide their views on gender equality issues on a recent guideline developed by the government. They have gained access to networks and multi-stakeholder platforms, as well as too relevant government agencies at the national, regional and local level.

7. WIDGRA leaves a legacy of strengthened rural women associations and groups, but more support is needed for them to become fully operational and self-sustainable. They were trained in women land rights issues, as well as gained access and strengthened linkages with local and national government offices that they can continue reaching out to. While these associations have received additional training on advocacy for WLR and organisational development and some gained access to bank loans, it was acknowledged that more support is needed for them to become more independent and self-reliable institutions. Issues on women land rights go beyond knowing their rights but having the economic capacity and have their land registered. In Cameroon, Kenya, Ethiopia, Togo and Mozambique partners continue working with community leaders interfacing with duty bearers at the sub-county and district level.

8. WIDGRA project partners have influenced relevant changes in government approaches and procedures and have also laid the ground for future government decisions at various levels to consider women land right's needs. In Ethiopia, toolkits and technical inputs are being integrated with government policies, e.g. the training manual for government officials on women land rights being rolled out at the national level. In Kenya too, WIDGRA project lobby issues have enabled women to be included in the sub-county, partners have established good working relationships with political leaders at district and sub-county level. In Cameroon, the CSOs well vast in legal land matters also built the capacity of government officials who appreciated this and they are working on their structures to improve land-related matters.

9. In general, when the WIDGRA project has not materialised in many concrete changes at the policy level, the programme has laid the ground for future actions to be taken, especially in those countries where new government administrations are starting. In Ethiopia, Kenya, Cameroon and Mozambique strategic partnerships have been built between CSOs and the government to support policy development, review and policy implementation with the Ministry of Lands and Agriculture.

Programmatic sustainability

10. Programmatic sustainability is assessed as high, a consequence of the WIDGRA project being the top-up of earlier or ongoing donor-funded projects, experience gained and relationships built.

11. **WIDGRA project's goals and activities are well aligned to the mission, strategies and other programmes that partners are implementing, contributing to the sustainability of the programme's legacy.** WIDGRA project efforts are already embedded in the programmes of most of the implementing partners. While the WIDGRA project benefited from cross-fertilization with

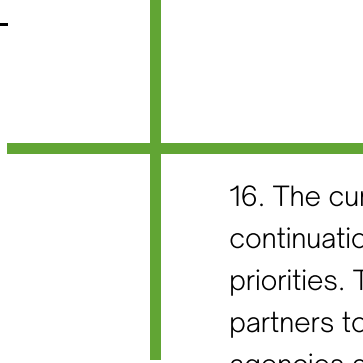
pre-existing programmes, likewise these and new interventions will be enriched with WIDGRA project lessons (in terms of advocacy strategies and new relationships). For instance, in Ethiopia the support that WIDGRA project partners have provided to the Department of Lands to develop a manual on women land rights which is supposed to capacity build judges in the 9 regions, will continue providing support to the same government agency as part of other projects of the organisation, contributing to the sustainability and further expansion of the process.

12. Upscaling of WIDGRA project results is largely dependent on other stakeholders' interest and behaviour, but the top up with other programmes implemented by partners can continue supporting previous processes. No explicit up-scaling strategies were developed at the country level to ensure upscaling of WIDGRA project achievements, which largely depends on CSOs, rural women and/or government initiative and financing. For instance, while the scorecards, transformative manuals were developed, their role-out is now in the hands of the CSOs, government and rural women. However, as indicated above, in many countries some elements of an up-scaling strategy have been included in existing or new projects, e.g.: the development of women land rights manual by the Federal Government of Ethiopia under the Ministry of Land which has included the scorecard and the documentary produced on women land rights, the training manual is targeting judges in all the nine regions. In Cameroon, the implementing partners are members of a multi-stakeholder group that comprised of government, CSOs and rural women where results of the WIDGRA project on women land rights will be shared with this platform for scaling up purposes. Tunisia was able to establish a coalition of local organizations and build connections of local organizations and national level organizations contributing to the greater platform in the WLR advocacy.

13. A sustainable contribution of the WIDGRA project has been to encourage collaborative linkages among stakeholders, especially through multi-stakeholder platforms, but their sustainability depends on the willingness and interest of its members, and the availability of funding. While some relationships that took place at the country level during the WIDGRA project pre-existed the programme, some of them strengthened in the past five years, and others flourished at the local or national level. Creating or joining multi-stakeholder platforms was a major strategy pursued by the WIDGRA project to enable dialogue at the country level. However, while some relationships between partners and stakeholders might continue on a bilateral basis, the sustainability of the functioning of some multi-stakeholder platforms is not always ensured, especially those at the national level. Platforms operating regional or local level are better placed to continue performing since they benefit from funding beyond the WIDGRA project, and more embedded in partners' ongoing work.

14. WIDGRA project also leaves a legacy of research production and toolkits (scorecards) that can become references for government decision-makers, rural women and civil society stakeholders.

15. Through ToT in different areas, the WIDGRA project laid the ground for new individuals and groups to benefit from further training, although the continuation of this work is difficult to anticipate.



16. The current pandemic represented challenges to the sustainability of achievements and continuation of the WIDGRA project's objectives. It will affect both government and donors' priorities. The uncertainty associated with the post-pandemic would require WIDGRA project partners to develop scenarios that consider the needs of women land rights and government agencies and explore opportunities to continue supporting them through other projects and collaboration with other stakeholders.

17. Implementing partners see potential in continuing working together, and some have already submitted joint proposals, but these efforts most likely will take place outside the WIDGRA project umbrella. The sustainability of the alliance as a unit was not a goal of the WIDGRA project in itself, is mostly seen as a temporary alliance. Moreover, the WIDGRA project was not promoted or branded as an alliance before other stakeholders (government agencies among others). However, after collaborating for years under the WIDGRA project umbrella, and before in previous programmes, most of the partners have shared that the continuation of joint efforts to achieve changes in the land rights sector is needed, and in some countries, joint follow-up proposals have been submitted and successful or are being discussed.

Financial sustainability

18. The financial sustainability of the programme results is rather mixed, both at the level of the implementing partners and at the level of government and rural women.


19. **Government policy implementation is often hampered by the lack of sufficient financial and human resources.** Moreover, in the countries subject to in-depth assessment, WIDGRA project partners supported the government, financially and with human resources, in implementing its policies (e.g. provision of training). Policy implementation at the provincial and village level seems more guaranteed since WIDGRA project partners' work is well-rooted in communities from where they can continue doing women land rights advocacy to support the sustainability of changes.

Social sustainability

20. **While WIDGRA has influenced the discourse and attitudes on women land rights, rural women needs, human rights, disability inclusion, and other themes addressed by the programme, it was not possible within the boundaries of this evaluation to assess the sustainability of these changes beyond implementing partners' practices.** In most countries, besides changes seen at the partners' level regarding women and youth inclusion (e.g. organisational and programmatic integration), the existence of cultural barriers to incorporate diverse groups in the land rights practice have been acknowledged.

Exit Strategies

21. **In absence of an exit strategy in the design of the WIDGRA project, partners come up with a variety of organisational approaches to ensure the sustainability of the programmes' legacy.** Partners are considering different strategies to ensure the continuation of WIDGRA's project work, from linking women land rights advocacy interventions with other programmes, linking existing rural women with advocacy platforms from where they can continue doing advocacy for



their land rights, or developing multiannual organisational advocacy plans building on WIDGRA project work to planning exit meetings with their contacts in each district to reflect on what was accomplished and looking forward into future engagements.

Conclusions

22. WIDGRA project was able to promote and support sustainable changes at the institutional level, building on the alignment between the programme and the mission, strategies and policies of stakeholders. WIDGRA project partners were able to strengthen and embed women land rights advocacy and inclusion approaches in their organisations and activities, and they also count on a legacy of resources produced within the WIDGRA project to support these efforts. The involvement in the WIDGRA project on women land rights has also contributed to enhancing the legitimacy of partners, who have seen increasing demand for participation in events and technical advice by policymakers. While the provision of training and tools for partners to innovate in their funding models was uneven across countries, in some cases they were able to attract new funding from donors, and the continuity of collaboration with WIDGRA project members also constitute an opportunity for partners to access new funds.

23. WIDGRA project also leaves a legacy of strengthened rural women groups that can continue advocating for the rights of their constituencies as well as collaborating with WIDGRA partners, but more support is needed for them to become fully operational and self-sustainable, including ensuring additional financial support.

24. At the level of government, the WIDGRA project has influenced relevant changes in government approaches and procedures, especially in the areas of promotion of rights-based approaches in land issues and has also laid the ground for future government decisions at various levels to consider women land rights needs, though these decisions and its implementation will depend on financial and human resources availability.

25. At the programmatic level, the sustainability of WIDGRA's project work on women land rights and achievements benefits from the top-up of earlier or ongoing donor-funded projects, as well as experience gained and relationships built by partners and other stakeholders. WIDGRA's goals and activities on women land rights are well aligned to the mission, strategies and other programmes that partners are implementing, contributing to the sustainability of the programme's legacy. These programmes and interventions can build on WIDGRA's legacy to upscale its results by continue influencing the interest and behaviour of the government and private sector. While the project leaves a strong connection among stakeholders, especially through multi-stakeholder platforms, their sustainability depends on the willingness and interest of its members, and the availability of funding. The collaboration between partners, women groups and government stakeholders is in a better position to continue at the local level, where the project partners have well established presence and connections with communities.

3.7 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Conclusions

26. The WIDGRA project has used the Strategic Partnership framework as an opportunity to add women land rights advocacy component to former and ongoing programmes, implemented in collaboration with a variety of partners in Africa. Its top-up design allowed the project to build on the strengths of its partners, make synergies and leverage the women land rights potential of other interventions by its partners, and also expand the outreach of WIDGRA project actions in terms of women land rights' needs, stakeholders engaged and geographical outreach. This choice proved to be successful as demonstrated by the multiple results realised at country levels and possibilities for continuation and up-scaling of programme results.

27. The project shows several strong features, such as (i) the focus on broadening civic space and linking CSOs to government actors at local, regional and national level; (ii) the investment in creating or strengthening networking and multi-stakeholder processes, including government and rural women; (iii) women-led advocacy, based on research or information obtained from rural women and by mobilising women groups to do advocacy; (iv) the application of a smart mix of advocacy strategies on women land rights with a focus on insider advocacy strategies (dialogue, provision of advice, training of lobby targets, etc.); (v) the continuous learning and adaptations of the operational strategies during programme implementation.

Relevant programme, but fragmented and isolated implementation

28. The project provided relevant responses to the challenges rural women are facing on land rights, that were aligned with ongoing policy processes at the local, regional and national level. The programme defined a set of relevant advocacy targets at the policies and stakeholders and combined it with an adaptive approach that allowed to react to windows of opportunity.

29. Implementing partners were not selected competitively but largely based on their former relationship with WIDGRA project members. New partners were added to the programme in various countries during programme implementation, but not always as a result of a clear analysis of the contributions to the pathways of change and their comparative advantage to contribute to the envisaged changes (but often because of the funding opportunity). Despite a promising complementarity in the selection of partners (in terms of expertise, experience, networks and approaches), siloed work prevailed among partners in the majority of the project countries, a result of the top-up approach and combination of project members, and the weak synergy between the different results (and as such the lack of a country ToC).

30. The link between national and regional women land rights advocacy is rather limited and fragmented, which can be explained by the fact that a clear vision and strategy to that end had not been developed and an effective regional perspective was not adopted or included due to a lack of a comprehensive Theory of Change.

Relevant capacity development support provided through training, but a comprehensive strategy at the programme and the partner level was lacking.

31. A programme-wide capacity development support strategy was developed at the project level, targeting implementing partners and their constituencies. The capacity building took place through trainings and emerged organically through the implementation of interventions. Topics and content of trainings were decided by project members with a guiding framework developed by PLAAS, but based on needs assessments of partners, though content and resources (offline and online) were not always adapted to the context or the specific needs of partners and their constituencies, and some women land rights advocacy competencies were not sufficiently addressed.

32. A ToT approach was applied in the different training trajectories involving PROPAC, Oxfam staff and some implementing partners to act as trainers, with varying results in terms of quality of trainers, quality of and/or provision of follow-up support. The project teams were assigned with the coordination of the capacity development support interventions provided by the different project members, which depended on their presence in-country and/or availability of trainers and advisors. By consequence, the offer of capacity development support interventions varied between the countries and varied in breadth and depth. Consolidation and follow-up support were not always equally guaranteed.

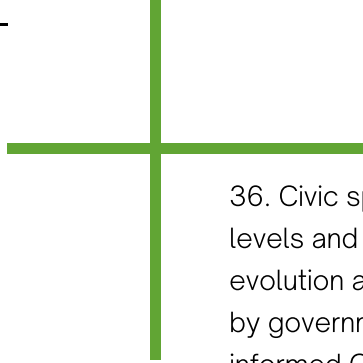
Stronger civil society and citizen's voice heard

33. Partners indicated they have strengthened their understanding of women land rights and advocacy processes and are now better able to incorporate WLR advocacy approaches into their work, which have allowed them to engage more effectively in advocacy activities. Partners acquired more knowledge on issues that require immediate attention and used it for fundraising, but results are said to remain limited and did not match the amount of effort involved.

34. The project also strengthened women groups' capacities in advocacy, by supporting the organisation and registration of women groups to own title deeds, and/or by providing training on advocacy on WLR and enhancing networking. Their capacity to negotiate and bargain with large scale land investors, and to do dialogue and claiming their rights with policymakers and the private sector has increased, although they will need more support to consolidate their work. The project partners were able to bring the voices and needs of rural women to the dialogues at the local, regional and national level (through research, and grassroots organisations to the negotiation tables).

WIDGRA project has successfully contributed to changed policies, laws, regulations and institutional practices with the strongest results at the local/district level

35. While structural changes at the national policy level were often difficult to achieve, the WIDGRA project (in synergy with other interventions) achieved important benefits for rural women to strengthen their position in land rights. Several results have been reported at the local and district level, and to a varying degree also at the national level. It is not possible to give a complete overview of the type of results achieved as these differ between countries.



36. Civic space: The project has contributed to creating and strengthening civic space at all levels and in strengthening networking and multi-stakeholder platforms. An important result is an evolution among partners from a confrontational to a dialogue approach, which was welcomed by government and private sector actors. And in several countries, implementing partners have informed CSOs on (changing) CSO laws, supported CSOs in complying with these laws and/or have amended these laws in those cases where civic space was under threat.

Institutional sustainability is strong, mixed results regarding financial sustainability

37. The sustainability of the WIDGRA project results is mixed. Institutional sustainability is high, which is a result of the relevant choice of programme policy topics, strategic choices made, selection of implementing partners, and the attention paid by the programme to build further on existing L&A competencies and capabilities and/or add an L&A component to existing programmes. Up- and out scaling of programme results will depend on the available human and financial resources that can be mobilised by partners in existing or new projects. Financial resources that can be made available by the government and private sector are not always guaranteed.

38. Citizen-led L&A is recognised by partners as the most effective and sustainable means of influencing service delivery on women land rights and inclusive development of policies and practices. The WIDGRA project was therefore a valuable joint learning experience and capacity building initiative. Implementing partners are determined to continue the approach, as some have incorporated L&A in their strategies and plans for the coming years and several joint fundraising proposals have been presented to donors by some project members and partners, with different levels of success. At all levels, the continuation of capacity development support is needed, to consolidate the obtained results.

39. WIDGRA project has influenced changes in government policies and procedures and has laid the ground for future government decision at various levels to consider rural women's needs. The project also leaves a legacy of research and toolkits that can become a reference for government decision-makers, private sector and civil society stakeholders. Changes at the private sector level are yet to be seen but awareness and knowledge on responsible land tenure/land rights have been built and structural collaboration achieved with sector associations, although private companies are still hesitant to fully embrace human rights.

Efficiency

40. Governance and programme management procedures were in place to enable effective and efficient management of the WIDGRA project. No explicit attention was given to measure efficiency, which is understandable taking into account the difficulties in measuring the efficiency of WLR advocacy processes, i.e. fuzzy causal relationships, delayed or unpredictable effects and complex resource allocation to differentiated results. But there was an implicit use of efficiency principles through monitoring, learning and adaptation and relevant measures have been taken to improve efficiency during programme implementation.

41. The management model followed the decentralised management structure with a global office, seven-country offices. It worked well for the country WIDGRA project, to contextualise operations and for short communication lines between the regional office and the country office.

42. Roles and responsibilities were clear for all partners, and Oxfam's double role as coordinator and implementer stands out as an innovative practice to support women land rights advocacy, which has also strengthened the country offices and allowed it to nurture a network of partners and contacts among women groups, government and private sector. Ad hoc collaboration among partners improved as partners got to know each other better, mainly in the form of information and contacts exchange.

43. A lean M&E system was developed, based on the logframe and combining data-collection on a limited set of indicators with new tools such as lobby logbooks and Stories of Change. The set of indicators and the stories of change have been useful for monitoring progress at the programme level and for upward accountability, but have given little insight into how change happens within each project and as such were little used to support learning.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Use the ToC approach to develop a more integrated and focused programme and a stronger learning agenda

44. During programme implementation, project members and partners realised that the country programmes needed more focus in terms of lobby targets and geographic scope and that more synergy between pathways needed to be looked for. Some evolutions to that end became visible but this integration process could have been stronger if they developed a generic ToC for the project and a country ToC.

45. *Recommendation 1.1:* The experience gained with the project, ToC is necessary for an advocacy project working on women land rights. that give insight into how the change will take place and how different changes and actors will relate to each other, that also inform on other or alternative strategies that might be needed, that gives insight in how local, national and regional strategies will relate, and that is supported by relevant assumptions that can be linked to a learning agenda.

46. *Recommendation 1.2:* Leadership of partners can be strengthened by including implementing partners in the design phase of the programme and/or putting partners in the lead. A stakeholder mapping can further inform the programme on what partners need to be included in programme implementation, what partners will be allies or implement accompanying interventions and with what partners collaboration can be looked for. As a consequence, new and non-traditional partners will also be included in the programme (as has also taken place during programme implementation).

2. Develop a more comprehensive and integrated capacity development support strategy

47. A clear vision and comprehensive strategy on how capacity development support would be provided in the WIDGRA project was lacking. The capacity development support approach was mainly based on a combination of existing trainings and tools available within the project and mostly supply-driven (though based on needs assessments but with the decision power at the side of WIDGRA project members). Contents were not always adapted to the context or the specific needs of partners and their constituencies, and some WLR advocacy competencies were not sufficiently addressed. Consolidation and follow-up support were not always equally guaranteed.

48. *Recommendation 2.1:* A comprehensive capacity development support strategy and vision need to be developed at the programme level and translated at the country level. This vision should include the following elements: vision on how WLR advocacy capacity evolves, added value and role of capacity assessments (at organisational or programme level), how to implement or facilitate capacity assessments (e.g. if organisations have done such assessments in one way or another there is no need to replicate/duplicate), the possibility to develop organisational capacity development trajectories, the mix of tools and strategies (including peer-to-peer learning), how and what capacity development support partners can demand, what role WIDGRA project coordinators take up in facilitating and monitoring capacity development processes (this include also reflection on organisational characteristics that influence effective L&A), how to monitor capacity development support, etc.

49. *Recommendation 2.2:* A strategy can be developed to further improve and consolidate the ToT approaches. In fact, the WIDGRA project implicitly aimed at creating a pool of local ‘trainers’ or ‘capacity development support advisors’, with expertise in supporting women land rights advocacy capacity. Within the WIDGRA project, a discussion is needed on how to consolidate the achievements. A reflection can also take place on how to put these ‘trainers’ more ‘in the market’ so that the trainings become self-sustainable.

3. Programmatic and financial sustainability of the implementing partners can be enhanced through the development of sustainability strategies

50. Sustainability of the results at the level of partners is on average strong (strong at the institutional level, mixed at the financial level), a consequence of the top-up programme approach and the capacity development support provided. The programmatic and financial sustainability of the implementing partners can be enhanced through the development of sustainability strategies. The sustainability of the results at the government and CSO level is mixed, as is the continuation of ToT approaches. Upscaling of programme results is a challenge in several countries.

51. *Recommendation 4.1:* Develop sustainability and exit strategies during the design of a programme. One sustainability strategy that can be taken into consideration relates to the social enterprise model. The evaluators see opportunities for positioning several implementing partners



as a social enterprise It can be explored how the ToT but also developed toolkits can be put in the market, and/or whether it is relevant to sell advisory services to the private investor. Several partners are acknowledged by the government as legitimate partners. Partners can proactively have their views to support the government in policy implementation.

4. Overall, the project's efficiency was strong, though there can be some efficiency gains

52. Efficiency was challenged more because of the fragmented and siloed programme approach than because of the decentralised governance model. The development of more integrated ToC at the programme and the country level will certainly have a positive effect on efficiency. M&E can be further improved so to enhance downward accountability and learning.

Recommendation 5.1: Stronger joint strategizing, stronger M&E across decentralised units/programmes, and stronger integration supported by cross-programme learning loops, trajectories or communities of practice will strengthen efficiency.

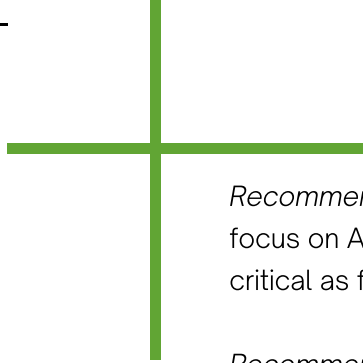
Recommendation 5.2: Further build M&E capacity for women land rights advocacy. Discussions can be organised with implementing partners on how to use monitoring tools for WLR advocacy. It must be explored what the bottlenecks were in developing Stories of Change Furthermore, it can be explored whether or not it would be relevant to monitor results of WLR advocacy interventions through a set of progress markers (expect to see, like to see, love to see). The quality of indicators can be further improved so to enhance their validity and reliability.

Recommendation 5.3: Governance-it's important at the beginning to design a governance architecture that is clear and simple from the beginning-should not be fixed along the way people were not clear from the word go. It was very ambitious.

Recommendation 5.4: Africa works with grassroots organizations, there is a need to get the right organizations so that even with meagre resources they can push this forward-difficult to get organizations to run with the project- especially in Tunisia-political economic aspects.

Recommendation 5.5: The nature of implementation in NGO work is largely contractual and the project has experienced transitions and co-applicant and IP level. Abrupt changes of leadership affect implementation expected and this needs to put in perspective by building on a strong and elaborate institutional memory that can be shared easily.

Recommendation 5.6: Follow on mechanism should be properly planned and included -Advocacy is a process that most likely goes on after the life of the project thus it is important to establish follow on mechanisms to ensure interventions are carried through to completion to enable tangible results in the advocacy activities



Recommendation 5.7: Multi-faceted advocacy at the regional level- WLR advocacy should not focus on AU only but also key institutions including the African Development Bank (ADB) - who are critical as financiers and may support WLR issues to enable women to secure their futures.

Recommendation 5.8: Need to strengthen strategic litigation in securing women land rights.

Recommendation 5.9: Strengthen the ECOWAS Parliamentary Network to Advance Gender Equality in Agriculture and Food Security. Though this was launched, there is a need for continuous engagement. The network aims to pursue inclusive and gender-equitable agricultural investment in the ECOWAS countries conducive to food and nutrition security as well as poverty reduction. It is believed the debates will be reflected in the development of national laws and policies and will contribute to accelerating changes for a more equitable society. This has not progressed much since the launch and it will be a strategic direction to be undertaken by the regional partners.

Recommendation 6.0: The Kilimanjaro initiative is a great movement to ensure there is consistent discussion and holding the respective governments accountable on the commitments to WLR, there is still need to have IAP and Oxfam as the lead organization on this continental effort to reclaim its coordination and organizing role in planning with its country offices and partners a concise set of no more than three meaningful and sustained follow-up actions as the highest priority. The actions would ideally be related to monitoring progress, monitoring commitments to specific actions on the part of regional actors, and securing in-country buy-ins from national actors (especially governments) to build political will across the continent, which would then be reflected at the Africa Union level.

EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

EQ. 1. To what extent the programme has been relevant in relation to the country context, needs and priorities of target beneficiaries rural (incl. Rural women and their communities)? (Relevance)

Rationale

This question relates to the sub-questions on relevance and legitimacy as formulated in the ToR. Relevance needs to be assessed upon different levels: relevance of the programme in relation to the country context needs of rural women and their communities and about gender and inclusiveness. One approach adopted in the programme is the ToC approach, evolving from a generic ToC towards country-specific ToCs and programmes. The ToR ask to assess the quality and results of this approach in developing relevant country-level interventions.

The question of relevance is also closely linked with ‘partner engagement’ as one of the central features in the implementation method of this programme. The core of the matter is how the programme supports communities to act as key agents of change who drive their processes of development, set their own goals, claim their rights and fulfil their responsibilities. From a perspective on ‘civic agency,’ the emphasis ought to be on organising communities (rather than mobilising them) [7] and supporting them in dialogue and dissent via ‘civic agency’. The relevance of the programme will be stronger the more the various aspects of advocacy agenda and policy influencing (such as agenda-setting, generation of evidence, engagement in policy dialogue and multi-stakeholder platforms; and so on) are firmly grounded in the reality of citizen’s aspirations and their claims to rights, but equally so in fulfilling their obligations.

Judgement criteria	Pointers/sub-questions
1.1. Country ToCs are relevant to country context	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Generic ToC is sufficiently contextualised by implementing partners (and CSOs)• Intermittent adaptations to programme and country ToC and strategies, and subsequent changes in the advocacy strategies or implementation plans as an indicator of responsiveness to external developments

[7] See concepts of citizen agency (further elaborated under chapter methodology)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality of participation of implementing partners in developing and revising country-specific ToC • Lessons learned from applying WIDGRA generic ToC in-country context • Scorecards indicators are relevant to the target beneficiaries needs
<p>1.2. Strategies and interventions are relevant in contributing to the envisaged objectives of advocacy at different institutional levels</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smart mix of advocacy strategies (insider-outsider/dialogue-dissent) implemented • Demand-driven and relevant capacity development strategies implemented that reinforce civic engagement for advocacy • Quality of participation of implementing partners and CSOs in developing demand-driven and relevant capacity development strategies • Adaptations/changes to the strategy made in response to new insights in context/power shifts
<p>1.3. Identified outcomes respond to the needs and priorities of the target groups (Rural women and their communities. CSOs)-Sphere of influence</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of co-creation of advocacy strategies and approaches led by aspirations of target groups and their claims to rights • The extent the target groups are involved in the research agenda-setting, research planning and implementation, generation and use of evidence • The extent that implementing partners are rooted in and/or aligned with the action of rural women and communities (target groups) • Appreciation of the target groups and end-users of the extent to the strategic choices made by the programme are relevant in contributing to the improvement of their livelihoods (in terms of access to food, land, finance, natural resources, decent work) • What were the priority issues that WIDGRA sought to address, were these addressed? Are the priorities still valid?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the appropriateness of project objectives to the problem that it was intended to address.
<p>1.4. Gender and inclusiveness</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • -Gender and disability lens in the initial design, adaptation to the ToCs, in evidence generation, agenda setting, policy dialogue, multi-stakeholder platforms, • -Gender and disability being addressed in capacity development interventions • Inclusiveness in operational teams (internal integration)
<p><i>Information sources:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study of documents (programme and project proposals, annual plans, monitoring reports, policy documents of partners, reports of joint activities that have taken place) • Workshops with country-based partners (incl. reconstruction of ToC) • Semi-structured interviews with partners in the partner countries • Semi-structured interviews with key stakeholders and external stakeholders • Sense-making workshop in-country (restitution) and consolidated at the programme level 	
<p><i>Specific learning questions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What approach yields, Dialogue or Dissent, what if dialogue fails? • What is the added value of grassroots women organisations advocacy, especially in restrictive environments? [8] • How do cultural issues affect the WIDGRA project at the country level? • How can marginalised groups (women, youth, and people with disabilities) have a say in WIDGRA decision making? • How have the different Pathways of Change mutual reinforced to achieve results? Pathways have a focus on different target groups, have they strengthened each other? How do economic activities lead to increasing or creating civic space for rural women and their communities? 	

[8] We understood within the programme research was conducted specifically on this question. We will not repeat this research but include the results in the analysis and validate the research results throughout the evaluation.

EQ 2: To what extent have expected and unexpected outcomes of capacity development activities and Advocacy interventions been achieved in line or beyond country thematic pathways? (Effectiveness)

Rationale

- This evaluation question relates to the changes the programme has contributed to with regard to (1) changes in capacities for advocacy of partner organisations, (2) changes in agendas, policies and practices of government concerning WLR and discrimination of LSLBI. We will explore the degree to which these changes took place and the contribution of the different type of partner organisations (in North, South, Western and Eastern regions) to these changes.
- The different pathways 2 to 4 describe several levels of change which can be summarised as follows: (level 1) enhanced knowledge of the target groups including CSOs, rural women and their communities (on their WLR rights and enhance women's voices at the community level in the face of discriminatory land tenure systems and LSLBI), target groups being able to raise their voice, target groups able to engage into a (political) dialogue with government and private sector and the expression of opinion is organised; (level 2) effective Lobby and advocacy interventions being implemented (advisory, informing, dialogue, claiming, confrontation, engagement in multi-stakeholder fora, mobilising the community); (level 3) emergence of an enabling environment for fulfilling the rights of the target groups (level of policy and practices change, rules, regulations, sanctions).
- The ToR demand to assess also (1) what the most effective and country-specific strategies and interventions were and what strategies and interventions were redundant, (2) what enabling factors and/or obstacles were and (3) how gender and inclusion sensitive the realised outcomes are.
- In the ToC Pathway which relates both to enhancing the capacity of CSOs on AU instruments and their government's commitment to them to enable political space for CSO (similar levels of change will be assessed in the pathways of Change) and refers also to enhancing capacity for effective lobby and advocacy. Regarding the latter, three interconnected objectives for capacity development support are described: (1) capacity development support of local and national CSOs, (2) capacity strengthening of beneficiaries groups at local and where possible at the national level through empowerment, increased voice and agency, (3) Strengthened CSOs network- inter-related CSOs. AAs described in the project proposal. Several WIDGRA members and several approaches were applied to enhance WLR and advocacy capacities of implementing partners, CSOs and citizen groups.
- In the analysis, an assessment will also be made of the validity of the following assumptions in the Risk matrix,: (1) WIDGRA capacity development activities improve capacities of partners and local end-users (rural women and their community) to carry out lobby and advocacy activities; (2) WIDGRA capacity development activities improve the capacities of partners and end-users to form and maintain relevant partnerships with other civil society actors to strengthen their lobby and advocacy activities. (3) Research carried out in support of lobby and advocacy activities contributes to outcomes being achieved. (4) lobby and advocacy activities that have been interconnected at different levels (local, regional, international) contribute to outcomes being achieved.

- To some extent, the evaluation will also integrate an impact assessment. As such, the evaluation will collect or analyse data concerning the number of empowered people (rural women and their communities) who have access to productive assets/resources (access to land), any element of increased income or adequate food consumption as a result of access to land. Though this would also require a quasi-experimental research design for comparison purposes that is not foreseen in this evaluation.

Judgement criteria	Pointers/sub-questions
<p>2.1 Changes concerning monitoring and advocacy capacities of partner organisations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of enhanced monitoring and advocacy capacities and competencies (stakeholder analysis, power influence analysis, political economy analysis, negotiation skills, participation in networking, conducting and/or using research, conducting strategic public or media campaigns, soft skills such as self-confidence, able to speak for groups, petitions and memorandums written, use of the accountability tools ie scorecards and checklists developed, CSOs able to develop monitoring reports and apply in their advocacy efforts, production and dissemination of communication and advocacy materials etc.). • Enhanced legitimacy of implementing partners, CSOs and rural women and their communities for Lobby and Advocacy, advice and input requested from WIDGRA partners by policymakers, private sector actors • Appreciation of quality and relevance of capacity development by rural women and their communities, CSOs, other key actors engaged through support provided by Oxfam. • The extent capacity building was sufficiently geared towards creating the conditions to allow effective civic engagement in lobby and advocacy on the WIDGRA thematic issues? • Contributing factors and obstacles (internal and external)

<p>2.2 Changes at the level target groups (local and rural women and their communities) concerning lobby and advocacy capacities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of improved knowledge on their rights, increased capacity to raise their voices, engage in dialogues with government and /or private sector, enhanced negotiation skills, use of research/evidence(scorecard), enhanced participation in decision making at the community level, participation in networks. • Enhanced legitimacy of target groups for advocacy, advice and input requested by policymakers, private sector actors • Appreciation of quality and relevance of capacity development support provided • Contributing factors and obstacles (internal and external)
<p>2.3 Changes at the level of government actors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of: agenda-setting, engagement in critical dialogue with CSOs, political will, policy change, practice change • Evidence of the role of civil society and its influence on public actors in the observed policy development processes and procedures according to the country ToCs • Evidence of the inclusion of the topics raised by women, including women living with disability in the policy outcomes realised • Contribution of evidence to the observed changes • Contribution of the lobby and advocacy activities that have been interconnected at different levels (local, national, regional, international) to the observed changes • Contributing factors and obstacles (internal and external)
<p>2.4 Changes at private sectors assuring inclusive and sustainable progress against the discriminatory land tenure systems and threats originating from LSLBIs eliminating any form of discrimination to women in land and property ownership</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • -Evidence of: agenda-setting, engagement in critical dialogue with CSOs, private sector, attitude/will in favour of envisaged changes, policy change, practice change

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of the inclusion of the topics raised by women, including women living with a disability in the policy outcomes realised • Contribution of evidence to the observed changes • Contribution of advocacy activities that have been interconnected at different levels (local, national, regional, international) to the observed changes • Contributing factors and obstacles(internal and external)
<p>2.5 Changes at the level of the different target groups such as women, including women with disabilities (inclusiveness)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes related to empowerment of different target groups in the context of the WIDGRA programme: women including women with disabilities able to raise their voice, increasing their access to land resources • Evidence of increased participation of women in advocacy processes in social dialogue, negotiation committees, ... • Evidence of initiatives and strategies of partners to include gender and disability in their lobby and advocacy • Contributing factors and obstacles (internal and external) • Across all the segments above: To what extent were the objectives achieved or are likely to be achieved? What were the major factors influencing the achievement or non-achievement of the objectives? What are the outcomes of the activities (intended vs unintended, positive vs negative, direct vs indirect); who benefitted from the activities (directly and indirectly) and how

Information sources:

- Study of documents (programme and project proposals, annual plans, monitoring reports, policy documents of partners, reports of joint activities that have taken place)
- Workshops with country-based partners with timeline and process tracing/contribution analysis
- Semi-structured interviews with partners in the partner countries
- Semi-structured interviews with key stakeholders and external stakeholders
- Sense-making workshop in-country (restitution workshop) and consolidated at the programme level

Specific learning questions:

- How does capacity development work when it takes place through the training of trainers?
- How can WIDGRA develop a more focused lobby and advocacy agenda?
- What is the role of NGOs vs grassroots organisations in broadening the civic space towards creating an enabling environment on WLR and address the discriminatory land tenure systems and threats originating from LSLBIs
- How can the link between local, national and international lobby be strengthened? And how can grassroots advocacy fit into national lobby and advocacy? How should WIDGRA balance this, where should our efforts go?
- What level should WIDGRA continue to focus on: local, regional, national level; vertical or horizontal upscaling or out-scaling?
- What makes linkages between northern, eastern, western and southern partners effective?
- Was it too ambitious to implement a programme in 8 countries?
- How can WIDGRA improve our lobby and advocacy so to obtain more results (ex. inclusion related to AU related policies/instruments)?

EQ.3. To what degree are the changes with regard to L&A capacity development and concerning L&A outcome sustainable? (Sustainability)

Rationale

In line with the overall objectives of the WIDGRA programme and the ToR, the sustainability of changes will also be assessed along with two levels:

- Sustainability of the changes in L&A capacity of partners and rural women and their communities – the latter is critical to assess lasting power of civic engagement(rural women and their communities) in influencing policies and their implementation,
- Sustainability of the changes in agenda, policies and practices of government and private sector.

- The extent to which changes can or will be sustained is in principle related to the ability of key actors to consolidate over time what has been achieved in terms of capacity development or policy development and implementation. Therefore, the assessment of sustainability is focused on actor-groups, notably government actors, private actors, civil society and citizen’s groups (rural women and their communities). Where applicable for the above-mentioned groups, sustainability will be assessed along different dimensions such as social, institutional, and financial. In addition, it will be assessed what factors may affect sustainability. A specific question will refer to the existence of exit strategies.
- A specific feature of the WIDGRA programme is the fact that several WIDGRA interventions are aligned to ongoing programmes that are/were being implemented by the partners in the various thematic domains of the WIDGRA programme. The main question is whether the linkages with these programmes or other programmes enhance the sustainability of the WIDGRA interventions.

Judgement criteria	Pointers/sub-questions
3.1. Changes at the level of participating organisations (results of capacity development support)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutional: support from leadership, adequate HR to follow up policy changes and lobby for policy implementation, L&A policy embedded in organisational set-up and strategy, coherence between L&A practice and other strategies of the organisation, (do stakeholders have sufficient ownership or management of the projects) • Programmatic – whether functioning and impact of Civic Engagement stretches beyond the programme logic (not affected by ‘Stop & Go mechanisms) and stays alive past the present programme cycle; idem for the level of collaboration between WIDGRA members and partners and with other networks • Financial: implementing partners and CSOs have sufficient financial resources available to continue implementing L&A strategies. • Social: shared vision, strategies and values regarding L&A at the organisational level • How well is the project/interventions linked with other service providers for technical support

<p>3.2. Changes at the level of rural women groups and their communities (results of capacity development support)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutional: proof of programme support that has shifted from mobilising rural women and their communities to organising rural women and their communities groups as agents of change (with lead agencies and partners acting as facilitators and enablers rather than implementers) • Programmatic – whether functioning and impact of Civic Engagement stretches beyond the programme logic (not affected by ‘Stop & Go mechanisms) and stays alive past the present programme cycle • Financial: citizen initiatives increasingly funded through local resource mobilisation and/or diversification of funding base • Social: shared vision, strategies and values regarding L&A
<p>3.3. Changes at the level of government actors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutional changes: evidence of the willingness of public actors to adhere to and implement new or revised policies, procedures, or regulations that contribute to the different thematic domains of WIDGRA • Financial changes: evidence of adequate resource allocation (in terms of investment availability of resources and (training) facilities/services and/or recurrent public budget allocation) to adhere to and implement new or revised policies (fully-resourced policies), • Social: proof of supporting policy discourse and pro-active attitude of policymakers in favour of envisioned objectives
<p>3.4. Changes at the level of private sector organisations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • -Institutional changes: private sector pro-active engagement in multi-actor platforms and other initiatives for the development and implementation of

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies and regulations regarding WLR and addressing discriminatory land tenure systems and threats originating from LSLBIs • Financial changes: private sector investments enable implementation of CSR policies and business and human rights principles • Social: positive discourse and attitude of the private sector in favour of adopting business and human rights in their practice
<p>3.4. Exit strategies in place</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementing partners are aware of exit strategy (finances, timing) • Implementing partners have linked WIDGRA themes into other programmes/sources to ensure capacity development and additional resources for L&A • Exit strategies were formally part of the programme design and/or discussed during programme implementation
<p><i>Information sources:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study of documents (monitoring reports, policy documents of partners, annual reports) • Workshops with country-based partners • Semi-structured interviews with partners in the partner countries • Semi-structured interviews with key stakeholders and external stakeholders • Sense-making workshop in-country (restitution) and consolidated at the programme level 	
<p><i>Specific learning questions</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How can WIDGRA create a network for L&A that goes beyond WIDGRA members and partners, and integrate others? • How can local structures of citizen groups contribute to a sustainable L&A context? 	

EQ. 4. What has the programme done to ensure proper use of available/limited resources? (efficiency)

Rationale

In addressing the efficiency question, a distinction [9] can be made between organisational efficiency and programme efficiency. [10]

Assessing organisational efficiency would involve looking at strategies and norms that the WIDGRA project has been using to maximise (returns on) their resources. Hillhorst (et.al) labelled this approach the ‘Theory of Efficiency’. It comprises a description and qualitative assessment of relevant features embedded in the organisation (alliance) and how these were translated into or integrated into organisational procedures and systems aimed at ensuring efficiency of programme interventions and those meant to monitor efficiency. We will collect evidence on measures and procedures taken by the programme management (at the leading organization level (Oxfam) and the level of country offices) to address the efficiency question and optimise the use of available resources. The specific feature of this programme is the presence of country offices by several of the WIDGRA members, with the Oxfam offices having been assigned the role and responsibility of managing and coordinating the programmes at the country level. How this agreement has affected the governance of the programme, and as such also the efficiency, will be included in the reconstruction and analysis of the Theory of Efficiency for WIDGRA.

In **programme efficiency**, on other hand, a link is established between programme effects and the costs incurred. The evaluators will follow the IOB criteria on efficiency, which are mainly qualitative (see JC 4.2). Only the IOB criteria on whether the programme was efficient compared to other programmes with similar aims, is difficult to measure. It is unlikely that a level 2 analysis, that compares the efficiency of the entire programme with alternative options or benchmarks, will be feasible because of the limited availability of comparative data and of time and resource limitations within this evaluation. However, it is proposed to carry out a multi-criteria analysis on the efficiency of different programme interventions that will shed a light on the perceived efficiency of different process approaches used by the programme in a comparative cost-effectiveness assessment.

Judgement criteria	Pointers/sub-questions
4.1.Organisational Efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme management procedures and accountability requirements are clear, lean and respected and pay attention to efficiency considerations

[9] Reference is made to The Spindle Efficiency Lab of PARTOS (<https://thespindle.org/project/efficiency-2/>) for background information on efficiency analysis – see also The Efficiency Lab: Lessons Learned. A guide to analysing efficiency of development interventions. Published by The Spindle, the innovation platform of Partos, the Netherlands.

[10] IOB also made this distinction in its initial communication & guidance on the upcoming evaluations

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of efficiency considerations in decision making • Mechanisms to monitor the efficiency of interventions in place • Evidence of compliance or deviation from procedures and how deviations were handled (new or adapted procedures?) • The roles and responsibilities of all WIDGRA members are clear to all • Assessment of the quality of the partnership relationships between WIDGRA coalition members and implementing partners
<p>4.2 Assessing programme efficiency</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence that inputs were used in the least costly way • Evidence of activities being implemented in a simple way (appreciation by CSOs and evaluators) • Evidence that overhead costs were kept to a minimum • Evidence that unnecessary duplication was avoided • Complementarity of roles of WIDGRA members and partners in contributing to observed changes • Level of collaboration between WIDGRA members and implementing partners, to avoid duplication and enhance efficient use of resources and obtain results • Examples of implementation conflicts that were avoided/solved promptly? • Comparative assessment of different types of interventions applied in the programme
<p>4.3 Functional M&E system in place</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring tools helpful to extensively analyze the ToCs in use and trying to come to tested and workable intervention strategies for several pathways

- Roles, responsibilities, procedures concerning M&E, tools and reporting requirements are clear for all implementing partners
- Data-collection capacity and reliability of data collected
- M&E supporting learning processes within the WIDGRA project
- Appreciation of WIDGRA project members and partners of the M&E tools (like stories of change) and requirements of the project

Information sources:

- Programme documents (programme and project proposals, annual reports, monitoring reports, etc)
- Findings and observations collected in case study research
- Semi-structured interviews with senior programme staff at Oxfam and local offices, and WIDGRA programme staff at HQ and local offices (where existing)
- Workshops with partners at the country level

Specific evaluation questions:

- What different roles can be given to the different partners in the countries?
- What was the balance between northern, southern, eastern and western leadership (Au, relevant ministries working on land, partners, and Oxfam offices) in the programme?
- How can the governance structure guarantee that synergies among the expertise of the partners are being created?
- Has the decentralized management approach of Oxfam resulted in better results?
- How were decisions regarding the budget expenses made?

CONSULTED DOCUMENTS

Country	Baseline reports	Score cards reports	Shadow reports	Annual plans	Annual reports	Reports learning workshops	Project proposal
General Project documents				X		2021	X
Kenya	X	X	General Project documents	2018 2019 2020 [11]	2019 [12]		
Malawi	X	X	X	2018 2019 2020	2019 [13]		
Mozambique	X	X	X	2018 2019 2020	2019		
Ethiopia	X	X	X	2018 2019 2020	2019		
Togo	X	X		2018 2019 2020	2019		
Tunisia	X			2018 2019 2020	2019		
South Africa	X	X	X	2018 2019 2020	2019		
Cameroon	X			2018 2019 2020	2019		

- Indicator sheets for the project
- All stories of change provided by different country teams

Additional documents, including external resources, are listed in the separate country case evaluation reports.

[11] Only in overall WIDGRA project plan 2018

[12] Only in overall WIDGRA project report 2019

[13] Only in overall WIDGRA project report 2019

