

Women's access to land tenure rights: key steps towards climate justice

Project start: 2016, Award year: 2018

CFLEDD has reached a milestone in granting women access to land through the adoption of groundbreaking new land and forest legislation in 8 provinces of the Democratic Republic of Congo. Engaging 480 trained women advocates in participatory mapping and dialogues with customary chiefs, community members, and local authorities, they overthrew one of the biggest barriers to women's participation in climate action. The project also supports women farmers in developing agroforestry activities (planting fruit-trees, acacias, small livestock) and in identifying illegal industrial activities. Promoting ancestral knowledge, they empower indigenious women and improve food security.



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NORAD, Rainforest Foundation Norway, RRI, WWF, Full Circle Foundation (John Filo), AJWS, Synchronicity Earth

UNIQUE VALUE

What's special about this project

- The successful ToT programme unifies women of different ethnicities engaging in a common fight for their rights. The constructive dialogues involve all community members and customary chiefs and enable new land rights for women.
- The project led to the adoption of new legislation with official land titles granted to women. The new land owners have demonstrated their ability to implement climate mitigation and adaptation activities. These results guide the revision of the national climate roadmap.



AWARD IMPACTS

- The international recognition was broadcasted on national media and enabled this emblematic initiative to upscale rapidly and significantly, with 8 provinces adopting new legislation to date.
- CFLEDD published a position paper whose recommendations were integrated in the revised NDC and the new draft legislation on Land and Forest Policy. The grant served to start a tree nursery.

"We need to address the legal system that is rooted in colonial and patriarchal thinking."

Dorothée Marie Lisenga

TRANSFORMATIVE OUTCOMES



480 trained women advocates, via a Training of Trainers (ToT) model



Mapping of 1,600 ha of land owned by women recognized by local authorities



125 women benefited directly from increased food security and income



7 certified land ownership titles for women



Project integrated in the national climate policy and the new draft legislation on Land and Forest Policy



