



# Landmines and Land Rights in Conflict-Affected Contexts

**International workshop  
20-22 October, Phnom Penh, Cambodia**

## **Summary Report**

The objectives of this workshop were to:

- Strengthen awareness of the need to consider land rights issues (particularly in emergency and fragile post-conflict contexts)
- Identify practical measures for mainstreaming land rights issues into mine action operations
- Share good practice and lessons learned
- Build links between the mine action and land rights communities
- Share initial findings of the country case studies

The following is a synthesis of the workshop discussions, lessons learnt and recommendations.

### **Session 1: Introduction**

Ted Paterson and Sharmala Naidoo from GICHD opened the workshop ([access power point presentation](#)).

### **Session 2: Introduction to land rights issues: Common land rights terms and definitions**

The purpose of this session was to clarify key land rights terms: statutory law, customary law, legal pluralism, land rights, land tenure, land tenure security, land title, land concessions, land administration, compensation, restitution, expropriation, land-grabbing, eviction. Jon Unruh, a professor and land tenure expert with McGill University, worked with participants to clarify the terms.

([access glossary](#))

### **Session 3: Land rights and humanitarian action: Introduction to land rights issues in conflict-affected contexts (Chair – Ibere Lopes, International Organisation on Migration)**

#### **Land rights in a conflict affected context: An overview – Jon Unruh, McGill University (Montreal, Canada)**

Wars are often caused as a result of conflict over land, and land is the number one issue for a return to war. Civil institutions involved in land administration often don't survive conflicts. They typically collapse, yet following conflicts, they are urgently needed to ensure post-conflict recovery. Common post-conflict land rights-related challenges include:

- War-time leaders still prevail despite the creation of new state institutions, and continue to exert influence over territory and land rights
- Local realities on the ground (eg the existence of squatters in a particular area) tend to be much stronger than what has been decided, for example through law
- There may be problems with statutory land rights which may incite or contribute to further conflict (legalisation of mass evictions, discriminatory policies, corruption in the courts...)
- Customary law often exists in a state of tension with other forms of tenure, often statutory law. However, it can also degrade, collapse or even become abusive in some situations, eg Sierra Leone, Liberia



### Potential approaches to land rights

- Enforcement problem - can new land laws be enforced?
- Evidence problem - there are often different rules about evidence, eg documents, customary evidence, etc
- Peace agreements - land is often an important topic in peace negotiations. However, without the involvement of local communities, it often gets bargained away.
- Peace negotiations: mediators can be misled because they do not know the land specificities and where the resources are while the parties to the conflict do.
- Forum shopping - which dispute resolution forum will be used to resolve the dispute?
- Neutrality – difficult for mine action organisations to use neutrality as an excuse for not dealing with land issues. Conducting surveys, clearing land, etc changes notions of land rights and access for better or worse.

### Different approaches for dealing with land rights

- Post war land law reform – can involve importing a law from elsewhere, which often fails, or can involve deriving a single law that covers all of the issues, but this takes considerable time. A third option is to develop a number of laws on specific issues, which has proven effective.
- Different informal ways to solve disputes - forum shopping evolves post-war and becomes more streamlined in terms of becoming a forum which is capable of managing disputes
- Chaos management – similar to the situation in Cambodia where there is a large volume of land often with little or no evidence, so mechanisms are put in place to deal with land claims by excluding certain categories of claims, having cut-off dates, etc
- Article of law – a quick solution which involves taking one article of law that works and applying and guaranteeing it for a specific group, eg right of reversion in Sierre Leone
- Including customary tenure in formal law

[\(access power point presentation\)](#)

### **Land rights and landmines in Sri Lanka – Bhavani Fonseka (Centre for Policy Alternatives)**

Sri Lanka's legal policy framework predates the conflict. The Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL), which is very popular, militarily defeated armed actors and passed legislation that limits the opposition. While donors wield considerable power, they lack coordination and have not been particularly interested in land issues, nor is there much space within the country to discuss these issues. In the North, the GoSL largely decides who works there/has access. Remnants of the ethnic conflict remain with the government ignoring the rights of ethnic minorities. While they were a root cause of the conflict, land issues were not included in the peace agreement because they were considered too complex.

Key land rights issues include land grabbing, land being used by the military as High Security Zones (HSZs), controlled access, large displacement, new settlements, competing claims, lack of documentation, and government policies that exacerbate land issues (eg economic concessions). Mine action organisations don't see the connection between mine action and land rights. For example, the GOSL has prioritised residential land for clearance, with agricultural land being prioritised only once all residential land is cleared. This means that when IDPs and refugees return to their homes, following clearance, they have no access to agricultural land, and therefore no means to earn a livelihood. As a result, only 11% of returnees can farm, while the rest remain dependent on food aid. There are also situations where land is cleared but turned into HSZs, instead of being returned to its owners. Therefore land is cleared in good faith, using humanitarian funding, but does not benefit intended beneficiaries. Some mine action organisations recognise that this is a problem, and are starting to link up with local organisations who provide post clearance assistance, even land rights expertise. For example, one operator is partnering with a humanitarian organisation, who despite the limited political space, is going to provide land rights training to the operator's staff.



In groups, participants discussed what works and what doesn't work when trying to address land issues. The following is a summary of group responses:

**What works**

- Having a clear land law
- Balanced local recruitment (gender, ethnicity, survivors)
- Raising awareness about land rights/laws at community level
- Alignment among various policies on land and mine action – if no land policies exist, get involved in land policy development Decentralisation of government prioritisation
- Intention to be transparent in decision-making processes
- Using community liaison and survey to identify community needs, and community involvement in priority-setting (access beneficiary communities before they return to identify needs)
- Providing community liaison and MRE as early as possible

**What doesn't**

- Not knowing how cleared land will be used and by whom, a not conducting any post-clearance follow-up
- Legal titling but through an illegal process
- Obtaining land ownership and title takes a long time
- Working in isolation, where mine action sets clearance priorities without stakeholder consultation and community involvement
- Applying one model or approach to different contexts
- Early return of IDPs without considering the support they need upon their return, eg access to agricultural land, etc

**Session 4: The post-conflict land rights of IDPs, returnees and demobilized soldiers: Special considerations in mine-affected contexts (Chair – Jon Unruh)**

**Land rights issues for vulnerable groups in Southern Sudan: IDPs, returnees and demobilised soldiers – Gabriella McMichael (University of Manchester)**

Land issues were a key cause of the civil war and other conflicts in Sudan. In South Sudan, legal pluralism exists with different customary laws in the different regions and an undefined land rights framework. The 2009 Land Act recognises customary law. However customary law can be exclusionary. It can be based on a specific community or group, may discriminate against women and can lead to urban expansion. It is important to consider the special needs of IDPs, returnees and demobilised soldiers on humanitarian grounds, but also due to the focus on the repatriation and reintegration of refugees and IDPs, and the big focus by international organisations on return to areas of origin. These groups are often particularly vulnerable because they typically:

- experience insecure tenure
- depend on institutions and individuals to get access to land
- are viewed as outsiders and therefore are not viewed as having permanent land rights
- face problems when they return, eg their land may be occupied

Recommendations for mine action organisations in South Sudan (and elsewhere) on how to better mainstream land rights issues in return and resettlement contexts include:

- Support the national mine action authorities and local partners, and build their knowledge on land rights
- Improve coordination and develop partnerships with humanitarian and development actors, including land rights organisations
- Consider land rights when setting priorities and assessing impact

One of the most important aspects of mine clearance is ensuring that vulnerable people are able to benefit from and use released land. While mine action organisations cannot address land rights on their own, they can contribute to land rights awareness as part of broader humanitarian/development efforts.

[\(access power point presentation\)](#)

**The post-conflict land rights of IDPs, returnees and demobilised soldiers in Afghanistan – Mullah Jan (Mine Action Coordination Centre of Afghanistan)**



In Afghanistan, some of the main land rights-related challenges include insecurity, looting, illegal seizure of property, land grabbing by war lords and influential groups and large internal displacement. This situation has been exacerbated by the absence of the rule of law, no clear land policy, ongoing conflict, and tribal and ethnic conflict (eg some tribes were forced to sell their homes and land or risk kidnapping). In 2004, it was estimated that there could be up to 120,000 persons operating in over 1,800 illegal armed groups. Today, the disarmament of illegal armed groups remains incomplete. The Mine Action Programme of Afghanistan (MACCA) has cleared thousands of mine contaminated areas throughout Afghanistan. Supporting IDPs and refugees has been a key consideration of the programme. Recommendations for mine action organisations operating in return and resettlement contexts include:

- Strengthen awareness about land rights
- Coordinate with land rights actors
- Do not demine land if there is a known unsolved land dispute
- Identify problems
- Consider equipping community based deminers with basic dispute resolution skills

[\(access power point presentation\)](#)

In groups, participants discussed what mine action organisations need to consider in a displacement, return and resettlement context, and highlighted specific do's and don'ts:

**Do**

- Take action if your survey identifies there are land rights issues (don't just file the information away)
- Make contact with the relevant land authorities and act as a conduit for information to relevant ministries. Put in place an active programme of information dissemination and outreach with planning units in government
- Familiarise yourself with relevant land laws and issues, and who to go to for assistance
- Consider security-related risks if you are seen as taking sides
- Ensure handover documentation is not used as proof of ownership
- Plan with resettlement actors on what is required and the timetable, prior to IDP return
- Communicate with donors and explain what you can do and what you can't in term of competencies and capacity.

**Don't**

- Legitimise anyone's claim to land
- Get involved in mediating disputes

**Session 5: The land rights of women in mine/ERW contaminated communities: Reflections from Afghanistan, Cambodia and South Sudan (Chair – Alan Macdonald, Mine Action Coordination Centre of Afghanistan)**

**Women and land rights in landmine/ERW contaminated communities - Asa Massleberg (SCBL Gender and Mine Action Programme)**

Secure land rights mean that women increase their possibilities to access and use micro-credits to invest in their land. This can create incomes and savings which in turn make the women and their families more resistant to shocks like natural disasters, illness, landmine accidents and deaths. Women and girls who have secure rights to land and housing are also less likely to be victims of physical and sexual abuse and violence. Land rights also increase the status of the rights holder in the eyes of family and community members. Ensuring that women have equitable land rights helps break down perceptions of inequality within households and communities, and reduces women's dependence on men for their survival and well-being. Data shows that women are disproportionately affected by forced evictions and land grabbing and are therefore more at risk of



becoming landless and homeless. Women without assets are vulnerable if their husbands die, abandon them, take other wives, or if the marriage breaks down. The number of female headed households (FHH) is increasing world-wide due to conflicts, male migration, etc. FHH often represent the poorest households in many countries.

Key issues with regards to women's land rights include:

- Challenges of legal pluralism – there may be gender-biased laws which are key barriers to women's land rights. Women often get caught up in the contradictions between customary and statutory law.
- Discriminatory marriage practices – in the case of bride price or dowry, these are often not given to women
- Discriminatory inheritance law – polygamy can negatively impact on female inheritance rights; women and daughters may be left landless
- Low level of education/literacy
- Women lack awareness of their rights
- Vulnerability of female headed households

Be aware of the particular vulnerabilities and challenges women often face. Do not to assume that all community members enjoy the same land rights, regardless of their gender. Gender is one of many factors that influence an individual's land rights, and therefore access to land.

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In groups, participants discussed a scenario involving the case of a widow farming contaminated land in South Sudan, who is afraid her land will be grabbed by her brother-in-law once the land is cleared. Participants identified the following as the main land rights faced by the woman: land tenure insecurity, legal pluralism and lack of law enforcement, lack of knowledge about the land law, lack of dispute resolution mechanism for land disputes and lack of livelihood options. When asked whether it is within the mandate of mine action organisations to assist this woman, participants responded that mine action organisations have a mandate to provide safe land, but not to resolve disputes of this nature. They should wait to clear the land only once the conflict has been resolved. Mine action organisations should be aware of any land issues that may come up during survey and take these into consideration when setting priorities. Ignoring the issue could result in: failure to achieve the objectives of the clearance; additional conflict; and create a bad reputation for the demining organisation. In terms of the type of assistance that could be provided to the woman, MRE was suggested to convince her not to take risks and enter the contaminated area. They could refer the woman to another organisation for assistance, eg a partner organisation with land rights expertise, income generating programme, legal aid, etc. Another option would be to contact local NGOs to get the issue documented and forward it to an alternate dispute resolution or formal dispute mechanism at local level.

## **Session 6: Special issues in conflict-affected contexts: Land grabbing and corruption, military occupation and rising land values (Chair – Ruth Bottomley, Mines Advisory Group)**

### **Land grabbing and corruption**

Some of the specific concerns from the perspective of a mine action organisation include:

- In Afghanistan, there are cases where people do not want their land demined because they fear it will be grabbed by the military or other powerful individuals as soon as it is cleared.
- In Cambodia, only 2 million plots of land are registered with the cadastre. 80% of all land is not registered which facilitates land grabbing.
- In Colombia, indigenous people own land collectively and there are cases where the military have taken land from them for their own personal use.
- In Lao PDR, there is a lack of access to and transparency of information on land use planning. There are instances of corruption with regards to high value land. For example, the government has granted concessions for mining, etc without considering the rights of the communities already living on the land.



### ***How to respond***

- Find out why tasks which involved land grabbing and corruption were prioritised.
- Work with the government to develop comprehensive land use plans. Be pro active and get information from ministries at national and district levels.
- Integrate mine action information into long term spatial land use planning to prevent land grabbing.
- Consider developing land use protocols with land authorities and local communities which help get agreement that cleared land will not be sold, and will be used productively for at least 3 years.
- Mine action organisations don't have the power to address or change problems related to land grabbing and corruption. However they can make a conscious decision to not work in contexts where this is happening.
- Develop a coordinated response to these issues, and not work with other actors, including donors.
- Make donors aware if clearance is not resulting in development outcomes due to land grabbing and corruption, then donors should be made aware. It can be challenging to get donors to come together on sensitive land issues. However, they can be used to put pressure on the government. Identify key donors and encourage them to influence the others.

### **Military occupation of mined and demined land**

- In Cambodia, the military occupied land during the conflict period, and have land documentation which was provided by provincial authorities. They ignore residents living on the land. In one area, problems arose when the land was cleared. The military stopped one operator from demining land and asked them to agree in writing to not hand it over. When the local authorities handed the land over to 75 beneficiary households, the military tried to stop the handover. The military also control and occupy border areas. They assume that it is under their control, and have grabbed it for personal and commercial gain.

### ***How to respond***

- Maintain good relations with the military.
- Inform them about plans for land use once demining is complete.
- Apply the land release process, including investigating any disputes over the land, consulting with relevant stakeholders and verifying who the real beneficiaries are.
- Improve links between NGO and commercial demining organisations
- Involve local authorities and development actors (eg forestry, agriculture, environment, etc)
- Promote consultation with humanitarian and development NGOs and donors post-demining

### **Rising value of land post-conflict and post-clearance**

- Connection between the rising value of land and land rights. In some cases, affected communities can benefit. Situation differs from country to country.
- In Cambodia, if land remains contaminated, its value remains low.
- Increasing land values may increase competition between displaced people for the land.
- When there is a rise in land value, many displaced people may not want to return post clearance because they may not be able to find jobs. They may seek compensation from the government instead.

### ***How to respond***

- Is this an issue for mine action? It may be a government issue, and involve asking government what the next step is after clearance
- Find out why tasks which involved rising land value post-clearance were prioritised
- Contact NGOs and local authorities to get funds to assist vulnerable households



- Collect data from communities before clearance
- Ensure government-donor coordination
- Consider developing land use protocols with land authorities and local communities

## Session 7: Promoting secure land rights in conflict-affected contexts: key interventions and mechanisms

### Securing Land Rights after Conflict: What to do? – Ibere Lopes (International Organisation on Migration)

Tenure security is never absolute. Need to think about it in degrees and in terms of perceptions. In post-conflict situations, perceptions of tenure security tend to be low and need to be restored to a minimum level, to promote return, allow returnees to invest in property, and renew livelihoods.

#### Steps for practitioners – what to do

1. Know the context – who are the key players in the conflict, identify remaining grievances, map geographic influences, identify winners and losers to the conflict (eg who lost property?), assess risks, etc
2. Identify the institutional framework – which institution is responsible for dealing with land issues? Who has effective authority – those with actual authority may not necessarily be those who have a mandate.
3. Identify if there are any land dispute resolution mechanisms, eg chiefs councils, land organisations, tribunals, etc as they can help resolve land issues.
4. Find out about pre-conflict land tenure status – where were people living before the conflict? What type of land tenure do they have? Seasonal, permanent, etc.
5. Identify existing claimants – someone with the right to property and willing to come forward with a claim.
6. Identify all stakeholders in order to check:
  - If there are overlapping claims
  - If you can operate in the area
  - Whether claimants lived there pre-conflict
  - Potential risks
7. Rebuild the circle of trust – the perceptions of those around you are key (ie family, friends, neighbours) in terms of whether they see you as the owner of the land or property. Your tenure depends on the circle of trust. In conflict contexts, the circle of trust crumbles – people die, are displaced, become enemies. To increase tenure security to a minimum, need to rebuild the circle of trust. How? Through systematic claims collection, community enumeration and mapping. Consider integrating mine action in land use/spatial planning, eg post conflict land claims mapping, which can be done low-cost and by organisations like IOM, and land rights organisation working on return of IDPs and refugees.
8. Dispute resolution – identify disputing parties, and facilitate dispute resolution by referring cases to the relevant authorities/organisations.

[\(access power point presentation\)](#)

In groups, participants discussed the following:

1. **Have you faced any situations where landowners or beneficiaries did not want to have their land demined? For which reasons?**
  - In Lao PDR, communities sell scrap metal from UXO, therefore do not want clearance
  - Powerful groups may grab cleared land from poor households (Cambodia)
  - In Vietnam, there are cases where people are afraid clearance will destroy their land and crops. Some are also afraid that once their land is cleared, the authorities will become aware that it is rich in minerals and take it away from them.
  - To protect boundaries, ensure security of a military base



- Protect legal or illegal crops (eg marijuana, poppies), artefacts and heritage sites
  - Environmental conservation, forest protection
- 2. What are the potential negative impacts of mine clearance?**
- Reduced tenure security, and possible conflict over land, eg if one group's land is cleared but another group's isn't
  - Could have a negative impact on tourism by focusing attention on the mine contamination problem
  - Clearance of border minefields could open up borders and lead to potential border disputes
  - Resource exploitation (forest, artefacts, natural resources, etc) and threat to biodiversity
  - Lack of support provided to new settlers, eg infrastructure, basic public services, etc
  - Clearing roads may make people think that areas along the road are safe
- 3. Can mine clearance be used as a bargaining tool for land dispute resolution? How? Why?**
- Yes, by contributing to clarification of land ownership. Insist on having the dispute resolved before clearance takes place. De-prioritise the task and come back only when dispute is resolved. Demining has been used as a confidence building, peace-building mechanism, by involving conflicting parties in the same clearance team
  - No, it could slow the process down, and may not be appropriate in situations where there is high risk of death and injury.

## **Session 8: Drawing out lessons learned and developing practical guidance on how to mainstream land rights issues into mine action operations**

### **Risk education and community liaison**

- Community liaison involves village mappings, conducted by technical teams and villagers which involve identifying who owns the land, who is going to use the land and its intended purpose.
- In South East Asia, post clearance assessments are conducted 6 / 12 months after clearance to assess whether intended beneficiaries are using the land and for which purpose.
- In Cambodia, the Ministry of Education has published a set of secondary school books on land rights and land use, which include mine contaminated areas.
- Pre-clearance surveys often involve getting agreement on the use of the land, which people respect.
- MAG Colombia SOPs cover land use but not land rights issues.
- If land rights issues are included in NMAS, there needs to be follow up to ensure that mine action organisations actually do it and don't just tick a box.

### **Socio economic survey**

The main land related information collected through various types of socio-economic survey is land ownership. Recommendations for mainstreaming land rights into socio-economic survey include:

- Include a question in survey questionnaires on land ownership and the existence of land-related disputes
- Establish a coordination group involving land actors and mine action organisations (and survey teams)
- Standardisation of forms, procedures, etc
- Ensure community development councils have greater involvement in planning socio-economic surveys
- Secure additional funding to ensure follow-up

### **Priority-setting**

- Disputed areas or areas at risk of land grabbing should not be prioritised. When it is clear a task is subject to dispute, it should be de-prioritised, and the problem should be referred to local authorities for resolution.
- National and sub-national authorities need to consider land rights issues when setting priorities



### **Survivor assistance** (survivors, families, communities, people with disabilities)

- Medical assistance provided to survivors does not take land issues into account. However collecting data from survivors could include a question about land ownership, in particular the reason for the accident, where, what happened, etc. However, this could be complicated as individuals may have been occupying or using someone else's land during the time of the accident, which may be illegal in some countries.
- Socio-economic integration of survivors does look at land rights and ownership, eg Colombia, BiH, Iraq and Lao PDR (not systematically)
- The promotion of secure tenure is a new concept for survivor assistance.
- There is need to review relevant Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and standards and see how to promote secure tenure.

### **Demining and handover of land**

- Deminers don't typically come across land issues because they surface after clearance. Post clearance assessments should consider land rights depending on the time frame and questions asked. Unfortunately, there is no uniformity in post clearance assessments across and even within organisations.
- During the course of demining, if commercial operators find out the land is subject to dispute, they stop demining until the dispute is resolved. NGO operators typically continue to demine but take into consideration local context, the seriousness of the dispute, whether it poses security risks, and based on their SOPs.
- If demining exacerbates tensions, creates conflict or makes land attractive for grabbing, need to consider causality rates, the likelihood of a return to war, the use/value of the land, etc before deciding whether to demine the land (bear in mind that deminers are not the only ones to make the decision to clear – others are also involved).
- Land rights issues are generally not taken into account when handing land over to government authorities, landowners or beneficiaries. Handover procedures vary, as do SOPs and National Mine Action Standards (NMAS) on handover. Often it depends on the country's maturity and capacity to engage civil society and government and address land issues. This varies significantly across countries.
- Include land rights questions in pre and post clearance assessments
- While standards could be useful, it is difficult to apply them in practice and there is a risk of just paying lip service to them. A policy document outlining recommendations to national government and donors would be more appropriate.

### **Post clearance assessment, monitoring and evaluation**

- In Yemen, land owners are identified but land disputes are left to the local authorities to deal with
- Vietnam is operating in a context where mine action supports development. Mine action authorities work with land administration officials and assume they will address land rights issues.
- In Cambodia, when left to individual operators, there are problems re: post clearance assessment. With the evolution of the national system, CMAA and MAPUs are well-placed to do post clearance assessment. With integrated mine action and development projects, land rights are well-integrated but there are problems getting complete information from government departments.
- Need a strong connection between pre-clearance assessment, priority-setting and monitoring and evaluation.
- Agree on national systems for the national programme rather than each mine action actor working alone



### Information management

- In Sudan, data collection on victims does not look at land rights issues.
- In Afghanistan, at survey level, surveyors informally gather information on land rights. However, it isn't entered in the national mine action database. Handover certificates include a disclaimer which says they do not constitute proof of ownership to prevent potential problems if used as proof of ownership. Data processing support tools can support the collection and analysis of land rights related data, but currently do not. Map layers do exist but in no great detail in Afghanistan.

### Funding, coordination and information sharing

- Most mine action funders are interested in post clearance land use. Some of these issues relate to land rights, others relate to ensuring access to markets, ability to cultivate the land, etc.
- If mine action funders found out that land rights problems were not being addressed by the mine action programme, they might reduce funding depending on how high the donor prioritises the issue or how big an issue it is becoming throughout a country.
- Most donors would look for a solution before cutting funding. Donors may be able to look at the issue in other sector or other levels where it can be better addressed.
- Mine action donor coordination forums may want to look at land rights issues but it is difficult, particularly within the context of mine action.
- Land rights issues tend to be a bigger issue between other ministries, eg in Cambodia, Agriculture and Land Management Working is where most discussions occur. Cross-sector coordination can be difficult.
- Donors ask funding recipients to demonstrate how mine action contributes to development, particularly in light of the sizeable funding provided for mine clearance, but this is more in terms of land use, number of beneficiaries, development impact, than land rights. They don't tend to ask about land rights. A donor would be more likely to address land issues through a land project rather than a mine action project.

### Session 9: Linking the mine action and land rights communities: National Housing Land and Property (HLP) networks, local NGOs and other resources – Ibere Lopes (IOM)

Mine action organisations were advised to work with land-related organisations, particularly in contexts where land rights issues are a cause for concern. The following organisations were highlighted:

- International Organisation on Migration – works on IDP and refugee issues, property restitution processes and strategies, and provides technical assistance to land commissions post-war
- Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) – conduct systematic work on land issues, provide legal aid, conduct advocacy, strong think tank, organise conferences and conduct research
- UNHABITAT – not operational, more of a think tank, focus on knowledge gathering, facilitate the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN), produce studies and toolkits
- World Bank – provide support to land titling, have a justice for the poor programme which undertakes research on land issues
- Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) – not very operational, focus more on research, and particularly in rural settings
- Overseas Development Institute – UK-based think tank, policy research
- Oxfam – present in many countries, conduct indepth studies on land issues, undertake advocacy
- USAID – work systematically on land issues at a global level, focus on land registration, claims collection, development of policy and legislation, undertake studies and develop toolkits
- HLP group – based in Geneva, provide assistance and information for organisations not yet on the ground, do short mission assistance in particular countries, conduct studies

[\(access power point presentation\)](#)



**Lunch discussion: Landmines and land rights in Cambodia (Chair – Ted Paterson, GICHD)**

- **Land rights in mine contaminated communities in Cambodia** – Mao Vanna, Cambodia Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority ([access power point presentation](#))
- **Overview of Land Issues in Cambodia** – Patricia Baars, East-West Management Institute ([access power point presentation](#))