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The NLC Steering Committee comprising of Land Equity Movement Uganda (LEMU), Uganda Community Based Association for Women and Children's Welfare (UCOBAC), LANDnet Uganda, Uganda Land Alliance (ULA), Food Rights Alliance (FRA), OXFAM International, Transparency International - Uganda, Saferworld, and Witness Radio reviewed and commented on the early drafts of the Strategy. Additional input was also obtained from the members of the Women Land Rights

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# **FOREWORD**

The Stand for Her Land (S4HL) campaign is a call-to-action on women's land rights. The campaign offers a collaborative solution to advance secure and equitable land rights by providing a platform for collective advocacy to break down social and structural barriers that prevent women from enjoying their land rights and close the implementation gaps on women's land rights. It aims at ensuring that land governance processes and reforms equitably include and benefit women through collective locally-developed and driven efforts anchored in building and strengthening the existing movements for women's land rights in Uganda. The Campaign positions grassroots women at the center to hold and exercise strong, gender-equal land-related political efficacy and agency.

Women's Land Rights are fundamental human rights, foundational to gender equality and women's dignity, and instrumental to improving food security, effective climate action, poverty eradication, and sustainable economic growth. The Government of Uganda recognizes the contribution of secure women's land rights and has put in place gender responsive legislative frameworks to advance WLR, but these largely remain in blueprint yet to be fulfilled and implemented in their entirety.

This Stand for Her Land (S4HL) Campaign Strategy for Uganda lays out five key strategic advocacy priority issues to actualize women's land rights in Uganda. These include: discriminatory social norms and

cultural practices that prevent women from enjoying their land rights; inadequate financing, skilling and capacitating of land governance institutions to support WLR; low legal literacy on WLRs for all; limited access to land justice for women; and weak participation, voice and fractured agency of grassroots women in land governance.

The Campaign is coordinated by UCOBAC on behalf of the National Land Coalition (NLC) – a multi stakeholder platform for advancing pro-people land laws and policies to realize people-centered land and natural resource governance in Uganda. The platform is currently hosted by LEMU and coordinated by a Steering Committee chaired by UCOBAC.

We believe that this Strategy will go a long way in supporting efforts for closing the implementation gaps on Women's Land Rights in Uganda.

Andrica .

Frances Birungi - Odong

Chairperson

National Land Coalition

# LIST OF ACRONYMS

CEDAW	Convention on Elimination on Discrimination and all	MoLHUD	Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development
	forms of Violence against Women	NGO	Non - Governmental Organization
CBOs	Community Based Organizations	NLC	National Land Coalition
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations	S4HL	Stand for Her Land
GBV	Gender Based Violence	WRO	Women Rights Organization
IPFs	Indicative Planning Figures	UN	United Nations
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	UCOBAC	Uganda Community Based Association for Women and
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and	OCOBAC	Children Welfare
	Economic Rights	VGGTs	Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance
LLGs	Lower Local Governments		of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context
MPs	Members of Parliament		of National Food Security
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies	WLR	Women Land Rights



# **OVERVIEW**

# 1.1 Background

Women's land rights are fundamental human rights. The significance of women's land rights as a tool for attaining gender equality, poverty reduction and economic development cannot be overemphasized. The global political commitment to protect women's land rights as well as various national initiatives to the same cause attest to this. There is overwhelming consensus that generally, women's land rights can improve economic outcomes, translating into better welfare at the household level, especially for children. Additionally, there is growing evidence that links women's land, housing, and property rights to improved food security, effective climate action, and sustainable economic growth. This economic efficiency justification is often combined with human rights reasoning to counter unequal distribution and control of resources like land which creates or exacerbates poverty.

Globally, land is viewed as one of the most important assets given its role as a factor of production and a basis of human activity. This is truer in agrarian societies like Uganda. As such, it is posited that WLRs are instrumental for two main reasons: empowerment and welfare. WLRs empower women to make decisions at household and community level as well as boost their resilience against any shocks. They disincentive women from engaging in life-threatening behaviors like transactional sex and can also be a tool for reducing vices like gender-based violence. From the welfare lens, WLRs are theorized as having much impact in the household and guarantee their social standing. It boosts women's influence in society as well as their self-esteem and dignity. Because of its significance to national development, land has become a critical

governance issue which requires full political commitment to address issues related to its access, control, use and disposal. Secure land rights have been touted as one of the tools for empowering women to, among other things, influence public affairs including governance in their countries. To realize this, the S4HL campaign seeks to bridge the implementation gap between the laws and policies on WLRs to unlock the economic welfare and empowerment benefits associated with these rights.

The Government of Uganda and civil society actors have rolled out several initiatives aimed at bridging the implementation gaps of laws related to WLRs. These can be classified into three: advocacy; legal and policy reforms; and piloting of initiatives. Uganda has been very progressive in incorporating international and regional frameworks and principles on WLR in its legislative frameworks aimed at advancing women's land rights. The 1995 Constitution of the Republic of Uganda (1995); and the LandAct,Cap 227 as well as the Succession (Amendment) Act of 2022 reasonably, conform to these frameworks including for example the CEDAW, Maputo Protocol, the Beijing Declaration, the ICCPR, ICESCR, VGGTs, as well as Target 5a of the SDGs among others in regard to advancing women's land rights. However, whereas WLR in Uganda are increasingly protected by law and policy, they are frequently un-realized in practice. Women continue to face disparities in terms of access, control and ownership on land, housing and property. Strong and equitable laws mean little to individual women without effective implementation and enforcement.

### 1.2 Context

Globally land is a political, economic, social and environmental issue. The fact that land defines the territorial boundaries and social stability of the people it turns out to be of high political contestation. Instabilities on land threaten political stability. Therefore, land is a highly political issue that commands political voltage. Land governance regimes are more often than not dictated by the political direction that the ruling powers wish to take. This in turn determines the resources allocated to the governance systems. Increasingly in Africa and in Uganda particularly the Civic Space for advancing rights, mobilizing and organizing societies is shrinking. Through legislation and enforcement Uganda has registered numerous cases of stifling civil society organizations engaged in human rights. Human Rights Defenders including land rights defenders have on several occasions been arrested. This has mounted tensions among civil society players and communities leaving in great fear of losing their lands or life. Politics and land at all levels are inseparable.

Although land is more often curved out of global economics and trade decisions it is highly implicated in such decisions and consequently affected. The global scramble for land for investments is an outcome of the various bilateral and multi-lateral regimes. This land rush has orchestrated instabilities on land, violating and abusing land rights, distracting livelihoods especially of the most vulnerable such as women. The global economics and capitalistic tendencies that reward entrepreneurship and capital at the cost of other factors of production have pushed poor African governments to donate land

resources to attract investments. With the collapse of poor economies and limited livelihood options, land has remained the only viable asset for investments. Coupled with corruption, land is used as an avenue for cleansing corrupt money causing irrational land markets and driving local land rush by the speculating political elites and naïve poor especially the youth. Women land rights fall in the cracks of this economic greed. Urbanization industrialization, infrastructure development and population explosion are fast emerging dynamics that are presenting new challenges for land governance and land rights.

In social terms especially among the poor economies, natural resource dependent societies and African Culture, land is identity, life and heritage. Such societies hold social and spiritual upper end connections with land. Women are largely land dependent as custodians of food production and bio diversity. Any distortion on land is destruction of their lives, livelihood, identity and spiritual heritage. Unfortunately, through these have never been quantified in the capitalistic land market and have therefore never attracted compensation. Social dynamics such as gender, religion practices and norms therein pause both opportunities and threats to women when it comes to land. These are not homogenous though but vary from society to society. Social inequalities on land as posed by power dynamics based on gender, economic capacity and education among others create more risks than opportunities especially to the vulnerable segments of society. The weak remain at a disadvantage

There is growing technological advancement in the various spheres of life globally. The land sector is one that is slowly but steadily advancing into the use of digital technology especially in land management and land information administration. While there is wide excitement over technology and digitalization, the digital divide globally and among societies coupled with the fast advancement and innovation in application, digital and technology uptake among poor countries like Uganda remains a challenge. The technical and technological capacity to sustain this advancement is a realistic barrier to both the land administrators and land rights holders. Women are at a disadvantage due to their low levels of literacy and confidence which affects their technology uptake.

Climate change and other pandemics are new environmental barriers to realizing women land rights. Climate change in particular is having impact on the quality of land and land available for production and settlement. As water levels in the water bodies rise reclaiming vast lands drought is fast failing agriculture in another wards pushing agrarian communities into fragile eco systems. On the other hand, landslides and mud slides are equally evicting people. Governments in response are gazetting and de gazetting in the efforts to restore the lost eco systems. Climate change indeed is building tensions between people and nature

There is a robust policy legal and institutional landscape for land governance across the board in Uganda land governance guided by an elaborate policy framework NLP 2013 and other supportive policies such land use Policy, National Agriculture Policy, Climate Change Policy, National Gender Policy among others. There are several legislations on land such as the Land act 1998 as amended and other related legal instruments such as 2010Physical Planning Act as amended, Guidelines and regulations among others. The legal policy and institutional frameworks are progressive to women land rights however their implementation has remained low.

# 1.3 Problems the Campaign seeks to address

While there are several obstacles to the realization of women land rights in Uganda, this Campaign strategy, will focus on five priority issues as explained below:

#### Social norm and cultural practices preventing women from a) accessing, owning and controlling land

Discriminatory social norms and customary practices that prevent women from accessing, owning and controlling land are still prevalent to-date. Although Uganda's legislation outlaws social norms and practices that subjugate women, the reality is far from these normative aspirations. This is largely because patriarchal ideologies are deeply embedded in social norms that are intrinsic to culture and identity. Women experience difficulties in land access and retention if they do not conform to social expectations that pertain to behavior. This not only widens the income gap but leaves women in a vicious cycle of poverty and increases their vulnerability to GBV.

Many land actors in Uganda identify social norms and culture as barriers to women's land rights and gender equality. However, the solutions often proposed do not address the underlying problem rooted in gender and social norms, but rather focus on formal policy. Additionally, existing efforts in social norm transformation are often too insufficiently resourced to change gendered approaches to land at scale among both women and men. Investment has not been made in initiatives that intentionally and deliberately create spaces where a variety of actors, including local feminist organizations, women, youth, men, traditional leaders and local communities critically engage, interrogate, assess, and come up with effective and sustainable pathways to address existing local gender inequality patterns. Instead, there have been one-off sensitizations or mere inclusion of names of women on land transaction documents which do not necessarily respond to the underlying structural social and gender complexities that exist. The S4HL Campaign will thus undertake advocacy for social norms and behavioral change (SNBC) interventions in a bid to bridge the gap between the aspirations and realities of WLRs.

#### b) Inadequate funding and capacity for land management and administration institutions to support WLR

Majority of the current interventions decry the absence of political will to address issues of WLR due to the chronic lack of adequate operational resources in land management and administration institutions at all levels. Adequate resources are essential for advancing WLRs in line with international standards and commitments as enshrined in the different instruments, but the land sector remains one of the most underfunded in the country, to the detriment of vulnerable groups like women. The existing institutional arrangements are generally weak and unable to provide the required safeguards to protect WLRs.

This is not only a barrier to accessing land services but inadvertently a barrier to WLR as well. In effect, the land administration institutions are weak and vulnerable; therefore, can easily be influenced in matters of claims and contestations. Inadequate resources have consequently affected the capacity (numerical, technological and technical) of land administrators at all levels. They are seldom targeted by advocacy and programs aimed to advance WLR as they are often left to their convictions as far as WLR issues are concerned. There is a wrong assumption that they know and can articulate the rationale for WLR. While they may be aware of WLR, they are not literate in practically providing gender responsive land service in order to actualize WLR. Yet these institutions are at the frontlines of actualizing WLRs and are relied on heavily in WLR programming, budgeting and implementation efforts. They thus need to be equipped with information and knowledge on gender and WLR beyond the requirements of general land administration. The Campaign will thus prioritize advocacy for gender-sensitive resource allocation to land governance institutions to realize WLRs

# Limited Awareness on the legal and regulatory framework on women land rights by rights holders, duty bearers and community members

While Uganda has progressive policies and laws that promote and protect women land rights, rights holders (in this case, women and girls as well as community members) and duty bearers (land administrators and service providers) more often than not are not familiar with such

provisions. Further still, the policies and laws are written in English and in technical legal language that cannot be read or understood due to the high levels of illiteracy especially in the rural areas where most grass roots women live. The limited knowledge of the existing laws that protect women disempowers women more and heightens their vulnerability to land conflicts and inability to access justice when their rights are violated. This also creates room for abuses and violation of WLRs from the ignorant or misinformed community members and leaders who thus cannot offer adequate services to the affected women. Additionally, whereas the law is important, the inability of land actors to articulate WLRs beyond the legalese restricts the ability of ordinary citizens to articulate the content of these rights in an informed manner.

There are limitations to current sensitizations and awareness-raising events that are often limited in duration and frequency. The background analysis revealed that these efforts, while important, still leave many women unable to fully and properly assert their rights on their own. This is partly because these approaches do not create opportunities for dialogue, particularly with men and community leaders on WLR. Legal literacy is being promoted as an approach capable of going beyond the limits of sensitization and awareness-raising by utilizing community-level resource/ reference persons or paralegals, thus ensuring longer interaction periods aimed at building a critical mass of people who understand and can articulate or defend WLR independently. The S4HL Campaign in Uganda will roll out legal awareness and education initiatives directed towards the public for them to ably influence policy and legal processes on as well as advocate for women land rights.

#### Limited access to land justice for women d)

Access to land justice remains one of Uganda's most enduring justice challenges. Uganda operates a dual legal system that entails formal and informal

Mechanisms designed to support access to land justice. However, the citizens face several technical, physical, financial and psychological challenges when seeking land justice services. These include bureaucracy, backlog, cost, accessibility, and administrative constraints. Land conflicts are one of the most common disputes reported in Uganda. While access to land justice is a general problem in Uganda, it disproportionately affects women and girls since there is limited capacity of the actors to dispense gender-sensitive justice to the general population of Uganda. This is due to several factors including: lack of tools for the justice actors to engender their processes and decisions. Legal pluralism poses constraints over women's land rights because of conflict between statutory and customary law. Although statutory law in theory does not bar women from owning property, it operates within a socio-cultural context that undermines women's land rights. Additionally, because of legal pluralism, there is institutional multiplication, corruption, and competition, which blur lines on who can conclusively handle land matters. As such, land disputes remain undecided or unresolved which undermines not only tenure security but also livelihoods and agricultural productivity. The S4HL Campaign in Uganda recognizes the centrality of access to justice to the realization of WLRs and will undertake activities aimed at reversing the current issues related to justice in the context of WLRs.

#### Limited participation, weak voice and fractured agency of e) grassroots women in land governance

WLRs are often dismissed as elitist and a preserve of educated or monied women. In such circumstances, WLR efforts are personalized and not owned by communities or the larger constituency of women. There is a realization that women still have a weak voice, fractured agency and self-efficacy. Many times, grassroots women are viewed as beneficiaries of land services and processes other than active agents of change in their communities. Their ability to identify their goals or make their own choices and then act upon them is many times limited. This disempowers them and limits their participation, voice, and agency in issues that affect them which leads to their exclusion, dependency, and vulnerability. Additionally, women, especially at the grassroots have limited self-efficacy, and lack the information, support, allyship and social freedom to decide and execute actions. Even when enough resources are available, grassroots women may not be able or willing to leverage these resources to fulfill their aspirations..

Women especially at the grassroots level also have limited participation in land and natural resource governance/decision making. Affirmative action position quotas have neither translated into social or political capital to champion the cause of WLR or increase political will on WLR. There are many women occupying important political positions but the net opportunity of these women being in these positions is hardly realized especially in regard to advancing WLR. Whereas a third of the positions in decentralized land management and administration are for women, this has not translated into women centered or conscious service delivery. They have limited impact as evidenced by the continued passing of questionable land transactions that often result in the grabbing of family land, especially from widows and orphans. Those in power are more often than not, inclined to pursue the selfish interests that come with the power they wield. The Campaign will thus advocate for the strengthening of women's voices in decision making spaces for strengthened WLRs.



# STAND FOR HER LAND CAMPAIGN IN UGANDA

# 2.1 About Stand for Her Land Campaign (S4HL)

The S4HL campaign is a mission to advance secure and equitable land, housing, and property rights for women globally. S4HL works through collective, country-led advocacy aimed atclosing the implementation gaps between law and practice in regards to women's land rights by removing social and structural barriers that prevent women from exercising their land rights, and ensuring that land tenure governance, reforms, and processes equitably include and benefit women. S4HL operates via country coalitions composed of grassroots, sub-national, and national-level civil society organizations and individual WLR advocates. Country Coalitions work in partnership with governments,

and collaborate with international NGOs, multilateral and bilateral development partners and institutions, academia, and other key stakeholders, to realize WLR. Country Coalitions also engage with civil society actors or groups focused on issues related to WLR (farmers' rights, youth rights, Indigenous Peoples' rights, climate action, etc.) and whose vision, capacity and activities sufficiently align with S4HL. Country Coalitions serve as the catalyst for unified strategies and action among diverse actors to help close the implementation gap and spur reforms for WLR.

# 2.2 Added Value of S4HL Campaign in Uganda

In Uganda, like in many parts of the world, advocacy for WLRs is not new. The S4HL campaign is building on previous and existing initiatives to promote and protect women's land rights. It is a catalytic initiative designed to build momentum for collective advocacy not only among women's land rights organizations, but with other organizations that work on land related issues for women such as agriculture, food security, climate change, investments, among others as well as groups focused on issues linked to WLR. It's a multifaceted campaign that recognizes the broad continuum of land rights in regards to WLR (access, use,

control and ownership). The five-year campaign is uniquely designed with a relatively longer period than most advocacy campaigns with particular focus on not only policy reform but rather bridging the gap between policy and practice to achieve the full realization of women land rights. This campaign is also unique as it positions grassroots women at the center as leaders in the campaign by strengthening their participation, voice, agency and self-efficacy in land governance in Uganda.

# 2.3 Strategy Drivers (SWOT and PESTEL Analysis)

# STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES, OPPORTUNITIES, AND THREATS (SWOT) ANALYSIS

SWOT is critical for appreciating the internal factors likely to shape the S4HL Campaign in the next five years. It facilitates the campaign advocates to build on their strengths, weaknesses, eliminate exploit existing opportunities and mitigate the effect of threats to the Campaign. SWOT reveals areas that are likely to hold the campaign back and areas of improvement. The table below summarizes the S4HL in Uganda SWOT analysis and it goes ahead to discuss their strategic implications on the campaign. The table below summarizes the SWOT for the S4HL Campaign in Uganda.

#### **STRENGTHS**

- Fairly long duration for the campaign
- Available catalytic resources
- People-centered
- Inclusive coalition-led approach
- Strong coordinating organization
- Strong Steering Committee
- Government's goodwill
- Locally driven movement
- Existing WLR movement to leverage
- Grassroots women-focused approach

#### **OPPORTUNITIES**

- Ongoing legal reforms
- Passing of the Succession (Amendment) Act
- Review of NLP and LSSP II
- Renewed global focus on WLRs- nexus to climate action and food systems
- Kilimaniaro Charter of demands
- Parish Development Model
- Women's Land Rights Agenda (IGAD)
- National Land Governance Indicators development

#### **WEAKNESSES**

- CSO-focused
- Donor dependence
- Unclear sustainability and exit plan

#### **THREATS**

- CSO coalition dynamics
- Elite capture
- 'Projectization' of the campaign
- Shrinking Civic spaces
- Shrinking funding for CSO/Land work
- Ideological differences on WLRs
- Shifting donor funding priorities
- Mismatched stakeholder expectations

# **Strategic Implications**

The S4HL Campaign in Uganda has an overall five-year time frame which is comparatively lengthy and adequate to harvest some tangible results. The campaign has guaranteed catalytic funds to support initial activities which are very critical to kick start and sustain it during the lifetime of the campaign. Implementing the campaign as a coalition enables it to draw synergies from the diverse members of the group which enriches the initiative. The campaign also enjoys the goodwill of government especially Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development (MLHUD) which is the lead agency on matters related to WLRs.

The S4HL Campaign is being rolled out at a time when the government is undertaking several land reforms and has recently passed the Succession (Amendment) Act which has strong implications on WLRs. This means the campaign is timely and will influence the land-related legislative agenda of the government. At the same time, the National Land Policy and the Land Sector Strategic Plan (LSSP II) are up for review after a decade of implementation. This means the campaign can contribute to the gendered analysis of these policy frameworks to ascertain their impact on WLRs. The global political focus on WLRs in frameworks like SDGs goes to demonstrate the relevance of the Campaign to international, regional and national development agenda. In addition, the country is undertaking the midterm review of NDP III and at the peak of the flagship programmes of implementing this development framework- Parish Development Model. Furthermore, the campaign falls at the popularization and implementation of the IGAD Women Land Rights Agenda declaration as well as the ongoing efforts to establish national indicators for land governance. These

are great opportunities to ground women land rights in the public domain and in processes of policy implementation. Additionally, the S4HL campaign is designed to leverage from global and regional opportunities that present opportunities for the realization of women land rights and the benefits that accrue from these rights. Globally the ongoing focus on food systems, the growing concern on climate change, Agenda 63 of the African Union and related processes such as GIMAC, CADAAP, Kilimanjaro initiative, Generation Equality all present a great opportunity of drawing the attention of the stakeholders to WLRs as a missed opportunity to the realization of anticipated goals and objectives

The S4HL campaign is at risk due to the fact that there is scramble for land through competing demands from urbanization, industrialization, infrastructure development, agriculture, housing and response to climate change; the competition for land leaves critical details such as women land rights fall in the cracks of negotiation allocations and giveaways, gazetting and degazetting. This implies that the Campaign may face still resistance from some powerful actors in the country. It could also threaten the people at the center of the campaign which can negatively influence the cause. The Campaign will also ensure that the final outcome establishes long-term positive impacts in the lives of the women, girls and other communities whose security land tenure remains precarious. On the other hand, being a CSO-led initiative exposes the campaign to issues like shrinking civic space, restricted funding and sustainability challenges which could derail the campaign. Additionally, while working through coalitions is good, it can be bedeviled with issues like intrigue and selfish pursuits which are common vice in the civil society spheres. Additionally, there is a risk of elite capture at the expense of the ordinary grassroots women targeted

by the campaign. The sustainability of S4HL is going to depend largely on coalition members who are expected to mainstream it to their exiting or proposed projects. While this is critical, there is an inherent risk in the fact that funding for CSOs has largely been shrinking which can stifle the campaign's impact. Like all human rights, there are still persistent issues with WLRs including prioritization of the bundle of land rights. Ideological contradictions in the context of priorities could

derail the campaign. Lastly, while the S4HL has various stakeholders, there is a risk of mismatched expectations which might lead to unnecessary clashes within the Campaign. It is therefore important for the campaign not to be risk averse and avoid potential backlash often associated with women's empowerment. The risks however, should never be a barrier to undertaking a campaign.

# POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, TECHNOLOGICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, AND LEGAL (PESTEL) ANALYSIS

PESTEL focuses on the external issues that have a bearing on the S4HL Campaign. It offers insights into the outside factors that will shape the Campaign and it is praised for its flexibility and applicability to diverse contexts. This makes PESTEL a critical decision-making guide for the S4HL Campaign in Uganda. Details are illustrated in the table below which is accompanied by an analysis of its implications on the Campaign.

POLITICAL	ECONOMIC	SOCIAL
<ul> <li>Sensitivity of land issues</li> <li>Resource allocation priorities for WLRs</li> <li>Civic space</li> <li>Shifting donor priorities</li> <li>Russia/Ukraine war</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Inflation</li> <li>Exchange rates</li> <li>Pandemics e.g. Covid-19 and monkey pox</li> <li>Global land rush</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Patriarchy and Social norms</li> <li>Population explosion</li> <li>Demographic considerations for targeting</li> <li>Urbanization</li> </ul>
TECHNOLOGICAL	ENVIRONMENTAL	LEGAL
<ul> <li>Increased internet penetration and use of social media - digitalization</li> <li>Emerging technologies and tools for gendered land governance</li> <li>Cyber security</li> </ul>	Climate change	<ul><li>New WLRs laws</li><li>Proposed laws</li><li>CSO regulation</li></ul>

# **Strategic Implications**

Land generally remains one of the most sensitive political issues in Uganda and most stakeholders like to avoid and engage with it in equal measure. This means that the campaign should be positive in nature in order to attract rather than repulse more stakeholders. Political commitment for WLRs is demonstrated in many ways including resource allocation which is largely outside the control of the campaigners. This poses a huge risk as it puts the campaign at the mercy of political actors. While the campaign is five years with some financial commitment, the reality of shifting donor priorities might surface and affect the campaign in future. This requires flexibility and innovations on the side of implementing partners. The war in Ukraine continues to disrupt global economies including those supporting WLRs work in Uganda and could lead to reduced funding for activities related to this campaign.

Inflation has been a key feature of 2022 which means the costs of conducting this campaign will be comparatively higher. Increasing basic commodity prices, a few months after Covid-19 will find most beneficiaries especially at the grassroots in dire economic hardships which might distort their expectations of the campaign. The continuing global land rush in Uganda means the threats against WLRs will increase which can affect the campaign in both good and bad ways.

The S4HL Campaign in Uganda will be conducted in a broadly patriarchal context which means dealing with societal norms should

be a key priority. The varied demographic dimensions mean activities and messaging under the Campaign should be properly targeted to meet the needs of the various segments of the population.

As Uganda embraces ICT and mobile phone penetration increases, the campaign needs to adopt a blend of physical and digital activities to push out its message to the target groups. Increasing use of ICT however also poses cyber security concerns which merit the attention of the campaign advocates. The campaign is also being rolled at a time when MLHUD and actors are embracing different digital tools for land governance which eases tracking of WLRs compliance in land administration processes.

Climate change in Uganda affects WLRs in various ways and could have an effect on the Campaign. As a result of climate change, natural disasters may cause mass displacements or food insecurity that increases the risk of violence against women or at the same time, bring to the fore the critical role women play in mitigating the effects of climate change. This can shape the direction of the campaign by either creating new advocacy issues or solidifying the existing ones.

From the legal lens, the proposed legal reforms on laws related to valuation and compulsory land acquisition have strong gender undertones which need to be analyzed to ascertain their impact on WLRs. Similarly, the recently passed Succession (Amendment) Act creates more work for the campaign as far as dissemination is concerned.

# 2.4 Stakeholder analysis

**INSTITUTION ROLES ADVOCACY/ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES LEVEL OF INFLUENCE**  Technical roundtable meetings Ministry of Lands, The Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development is High mandated to ensure a rational: sustainable and effective use **Housing and Urban**  Multi stakeholder engagement development and management of land and orderly development of urban forums and rural areas as well as safe, planned and adequate housing for socio-economic development. The ministry is responsible Conferences/workshops for policy direction, national standards and coordination of all Media engagements/dialogues matters concerning lands, housing and urban development in the country. Periodic assessments Under the Stand for Her land Campaign, the campaigners will Budget dialogues for the land sector seek MLHUD to: Courtesy visits → Provide support, supervision and technical back- Facilitate trainings for local land stopping to Local land actors to ensure that systems administrators and process are inclusive and benefit women. → Liaise with relevant stakeholders for the mobilization of resources in support of women's land rights initiatives and programs in the ministry. Ensure that women's land rights are prioritized at planning, budget formulation, priority budgetary allocation and implementation.

INSTITUTION	ROLES	LEVEL OF INFLUENCE	ADVOCACY/ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES
Ministry of Gender, Labor and Social Development	Ministry of Gender Labor and Social development- To mobilize and empower communities to harness their potential while protecting the rights of vulnerable population groups. The ministry is responsible for the protection and promotion of the rights of the vulnerable population, addressing gender inequalities, ensuring cultural growth. The Ministry plays a fundamental role in creating demand for social services and laying a foundation for other sectors to improve their outcomes.  Under the Stand for her Land Campaign Campaigners shall seek MGLSD  → To design and implement programs that mobilize and empower communities to protect and promote women land rights  → To champion the agenda of protecting and promoting women land rights as a lead ministryresponsible for issues of the rights of the vulnerable people  → Create demand and mobilize other sectors to offer services that promote women land rights.	High	<ul> <li>Technical round tables</li> <li>Development of fact sheets, analytical and briefing papers</li> <li>Dialogues with National Women Council</li> <li>Facilitating joint meetings between Ministry of Gender, labor and Social development and Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban development</li> <li>Joint media engagements</li> </ul>

INSTITUTION	ROLES	LEVEL OF INFLUENCE	ADVOCACY/ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES
Parliament	The Uganda Parliamentary Land Management Forum and the Uganda Women Parliamentary Association will be the intermediary platforms in parliament for the campaign. The campaign will leverage on their influence to ensure the allocation of a fair and gender-inclusive budget to the land sector of Uganda. Further the campaign will engage the Parliamentary Committee on Physical infrastructure the committee with the mandate to review and approve plans and budgets for the land sector, more engagements will be undertaken with the office of the Speaker of Parliament. The Stand for her land Campaign will seek Parliament and its organs to;  → Champion women land rights during Parliamentary debates and all forms of legal reforms on land as matter of national importance  → Hold the relevant MDAs accountable on plans and budgets and interventions that advance women land rights during the budget cycle and the performance review processes.  → Mobilize all MPs to champion the agenda of women land rights as they execute their representative, oversight, legislative and appropriation role	High	<ul> <li>Petitions to Speaker of Parliament</li> <li>Orientation meetings for MPs</li> <li>Technical roundtable meetings</li> <li>Engagements with Parliamentary Committees during the budget process</li> <li>Development of issue papers / Policy briefs, analytical papers, factsheets</li> <li>Joint media engagements</li> <li>Engagement on land reform bills</li> <li>Technical retreats</li> <li>Field visits for case studies</li> </ul>

INSTITUTION	ROLES	LEVEL OF INFLUENCE	ADVOCACY/ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES
Judiciary	The judiciary in Uganda is mandated to Promote the rule of law and contribute to the maintenance of order in society and Administer justice through resolving disputes between individuals, and between the State and individuals.  Under the Stand for Her Land campaign, the campaigners will seek the judiciary to  → Strengthening the capacities of local land justice institutions to prioritize the promotion and protection of women land rights in due processes.  → Support the protection of the rights of land rights defenders  → To promote ADR as alternatives that are accessible to women in accessing land justice.	High	<ul> <li>Petition the Chief Justice on women land rights issues</li> <li>Participate in JLOS Land Justice committee meetings</li> <li>Technical roundtable meetings on women land rights</li> <li>Facilitate training and capacity building events on women land rights</li> <li>Develop paper briefs on access to land justice for women</li> </ul>

INSTITUTION	ROLES	LEVEL OF INFLUENCE	ADVOCACY/ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES
Opinion, Religious and Traditional leaders	These are the key reinforcement group for culture and customs and command a lot of influence However, in most cases these structures have not been able to use their power and authority to protect and uphold women's land rights. This group will therefore be engaged and also used as change agents to transform harmful norms against women's land rights	High	<ul> <li>Technical meetings with the respective institutions e.g. office of Katikkiro of Buganda, UJCC, IRCU, traditional cultural union</li> <li>Dialogues</li> <li>Joint awareness activities</li> </ul>
	Under the Stand for Her Land Campaign, the campaigners will seek the influences of these groups to		
	→ Engage in social norms and behavioral change dialogues		
	→ Lead and facilitate social norms and behavioral change dialogues in communities		
	→ Advance women land rights in policy development processes and implementation		

INSTITUTION	ROLES	LEVEL OF INFLUENCE	ADVOCACY/ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES
Local land governance institutions	Women in rural areas prefer using local land governance institutions such as district land boards, Area Land Committees, Local councils at all levels because of proximity and affordability. Whereas the regulations are clear on representation of women and support provisions to advance women land rights, capacities of these institutions have remained low financially, technically, numerically and technologically.  The stand for her land campaign will seek local land administration institutions to;  → Advance women land rights as provided for by the laws and regulations  → Plan and allocate resources for these institutions to fulfill their mandate.  → Create awareness and build the capacities of communities on advancing women land rights	Moderate	<ul> <li>Capacity building</li> <li>Support materials such as land laws and regulations, awareness materials on women land rights</li> <li>Community dialogues</li> <li>Analytical papers of LG expenditures</li> <li>Joint media activities at local level</li> </ul>
	These have inherent power to define their vision and dictate direction to make their vision a reality. However due to long term suppressions social economic and political exclusions more often than not they have low self-confidence, self-worthiness and self-esteem. Their voices are scanty and not strong to mobilize and influence change and their level of urgency has remained low. However once mobilized and organized their voices of power and influence for change that is beneficial to them and their societies. The stand for her land campaign will seek these women to;		

INSTITUTION	ROLES	LEVEL OF INFLUENCE	ADVOCACY/ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES
Grassroot's women organization	<ul> <li>Mobilize and organize themselves around land to build a common voice.</li> <li>Be change agents of positive messages on benefits of realizing women land rights to their families and societies</li> <li>Develop messages and disseminate these messages through own choices of tools</li> <li>Engage leaders at all levels with alternatives to advancing women land rights</li> </ul>	High and low	<ul> <li>Facilitate the organization of women around land</li> <li>Create safe spaces for experience sharing</li> <li>Support their engagement strategy development</li> <li>Facilitate their engagement with leaders at various levels</li> <li>Support the dissemination and packaging of their messages</li> <li>Facilitate their dialogues</li> </ul>
Women Rights Organizations and CSOs	There are several civil society organization and women rights organizations that advance women issues and gender in Uganda and beyond. Women land rights does not prominently feature in their day-to-day programs due to the dynamisms of the women issues and capacity of some of these organization stop comprehend women land rights in line with their agenda. The stand for her land campaign will seek CSOs and Women Rights Organizations to;  Adopt the campaign and Integrate women land rights in their programmes so as to create space for it as a critical priority area.  Join the Stand for Her Land Campaign to drive the agenda of women land rights.	High	<ul> <li>Orientation meetings with CSOs and WROs</li> <li>Joint planning</li> <li>Joint activities such as conferences</li> <li>Joint media engagements</li> <li>Meeting with Heads of CSOs and WROs</li> </ul>

INSTITUTION	ROLES	LEVEL OF INFLUENCE	ADVOCACY/ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES
Regional blocs and allies development partners	The Stand for Her Land Campaign will leverage on the already existing efforts at regional level such as the GIMAC, the Regional platforms under the ILC to influence change at that level.	Moderate	Regional conferences and workshops
	Development partners have influence over key and strategic priorities in the Ministry and also the Civil society world. The Stand for Her land is a five-year campaign that will require funding commitment from development partners for both the campaign coalition but also individual members to contribute to the overall goal.	Moderate	<ul> <li>Donor roundtable meetings</li> <li>Engagements with donor platforms e.g. Donor land working group</li> <li>Dissemination of briefing papers</li> </ul>





STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Development of this S4HL strategy has been an inclusive and participatory process reaching out to a vast and diverse membership and stakeholders, in order to ensure that it comprehensively covers the existing and emerging priority issues that limit actualization of women's land rights in Uganda and thus which the advocacy campaign will focus on for the next five years.

# 3.1 Gathering Facts/ Background Analysis

The campaign strategy is anchored on credible, reliable and factual evidence gathered from latest statistics and data. As a first step, a situational background analysis was done to interrogate Uganda's

country context and status regarding implementation gaps on women land rights. The Report findings thus formed a rationalized basis to anchor the campaign priorities issues.

# 3.2 National level stakeholder work planning and strategizing dialogue

A four-day workshop was held on 28th February to 2nd March 2022 at K Hotels in Entebbe with National Land Coalition members, Government representatives from Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development (MLHUD), Government representatives from Local Government, development partners, representatives from national and sub national Civil Society Organizations, Policy makers and grassroots women. The Objective of the engagement was to discuss and shape the framework and priorities of the S4HL campaign strategy and work plan in Uganda. Through this engagement, participants were able to map the legal landscape/status of laws and policies including the implementation

gaps/barriers in regard to WLRs, Identify the existing frameworks and initiatives in advancing WLRs and explore the potential added-value of the S4HL campaign to existing efforts. They also identified strategies to build/strengthen a sustainable, inclusive, locally\(\text{\text{M}}\)driven advocacy movement to advance WLR. Additionally, participants framed the S4HL campaign Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) plan to evaluate change and outcomes of the campaign and a S4HL campaign advocacy and communications plan. All this information was consolidated to form this S4HL campaign strategy.

# 3.3 Grassroots women strategizing and work planning workshop

To develop an inclusive and country specific strategy, a two-day workshop was convened on 6th and 7th July at Eureka Palace Hotel bringing together grass root women leader representatives from all regions of the country to deliberate and input their priority issues into the strategy. The objective of the workshop was to create a space where grassroots peoples' voices are heard, prioritized and their contribution to the actualization of the strategy is shaped. Participants identified the key advocacy issues for the campaign with reference to their experiences and community priorities. Key advocacy issues recommended by grassroots women and men included social norms transformation, financing for land administration institutions, legal literacy for rights holders and duty bearers, prioritization of the land sector in National Development projects and prioritization of women in land governance processes. Furthermore, participants also conducted a stakeholder analysis to identify key stakeholders to target in the campaign per advocacy issue.

# 3.4 S4HL Campaign strategy validation meeting

Two validation workshops were held with the NLC steering committee members and development partners to review the draft strategy that had input from the different actors consolidated. The objective of these validation meetings was to secure input, perspectives and recommendations of civil society actors and development partners on the suggested advocacy priorities, and strategies. These validation

meetings were used to review the contributions of grassroots people and strengthen their appreciation and commitment towards achieving the campaign set objectives. The first meeting happened on 20th July 2022 at Kabira Country Club, Kampala while the second one on 18th and 19th August 2022 at Rivonia Suites, Mbuya.



S4HL CAMPAIGN STRATEGIC DIRECTION

# 4.1 Vision of the S4HL campaign

Women and girls in Uganda fully enjoying their land rights

# 4.2 Goal of the S4HL Campaign

Implementation gaps on WLRs bridged in Uganda.

# 4.3 Objectives of the campaign

- 1. To catalyze a locally-driven movements for WLR in Uganda
- 2. To advocate for increased resources and capacity strengthening for land governance institutions to support WLRs
- 3. To engage communities to address social norms that limit WLRs.
- 4. To strengthen grassroots women's participation, voice and agency in land governance

# 4.4 Outcomes of the campaign

- 1. A strong civil society movement advancing WLRs in Uganda
- 2. Social norms that limit WLR are increasingly and more systematically addressed in communities, political spaces, and institutional structures relevant to WLR implementation.
- 3. The land administration actors have sufficient capacity, resources, and incentives to advance WLR
- 4. Global and national level actors provide needed resources to realize WLR in Uganda
- 5. The land administration actors have sufficient capacity, resources, and incentives to advance WLR
- 6. Women's legal literacy and access to land justice enhanced
- 7. Grassroots women's increased participation, voice and agency in land governance

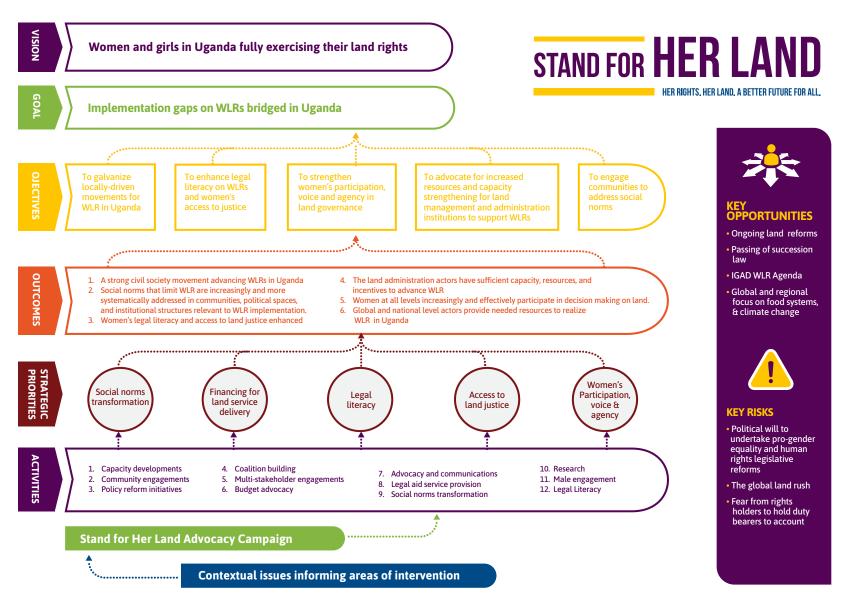
# 4.5 S4HL Theory of Change

The S4HL Campaign in Uganda is largely premised on a rights-based approach which places human rights standards including those on gender equality at the forefront of development planning and practice. The approach is lauded for empowering the underprivileged to assert their rights and among other things, providing for the design of adequate mechanisms for redress and accountability. In line with rights-based approaches, the campaign strategy is twofold: to empower the demand side of WLRs (rights holders) to articulate their rights and concerns; and on the other hand, to strengthen the capacity of the supply side (duty bearers) to deliver on its WLRs mandate.

As such, the S4HL Campaign focuses on bridging the gaps that exist in the implementation of the various laws on WLRs including highlighting the needed legal and policy reforms as well as transformation of the various norms and cultures that impede the realization of these rights. The Campaign envisages a country were WLRs are generally considered to be socially legitimate with women enjoying various land and property rights. Conversely, it will seek to strengthen the capacity of the government to ensure the attainment of gender equality and access to justice in the context of WLRs. Under the campaign, national land institutions are expected to be gender-sensitive in terms of composition, leadership and decision making. The campaign strategy approach emphasizes the creation and/or promotion of dialogue and advocacy spaces for WLRs. By implication, it is envisaged that both rights holders and duty bearers will have the required abilities and autonomy to demand for and deliver WLRs. Emphasis will be placed on participation and non-discrimination as principles of rights-based approaches to build civic agency of grassroots women and structures to advocate for WLRs.

Overall, the S4HL in Uganda's campaign theory of change asserts that by strengthening the ability of grassroots women and civil society actors to demand for WLRs; and strengthening the capacity of the government to implement laws on WLRs, then gender inequality in the context of land rights will be achieved.

Figure 2: Theory of Change





S4HL CAMPAIGN IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

# 5.1 S4HL Action Plan

#### **FLAGSHIP ACTIVITIES**

The S4HL Campaign will carry out the following flagship activities to start off and also sustain the campaign in Uganda

1. Background analysis and research

This advocacy campaign is evidenced based and the S4HL campaign strategy development and implementation will be based on findings from background analysis, research studies and learning from past and existing pilot projects as a basis justify the call for action to actualize women's Land Rights in Uganda.

2. S4HL Campaign Launch This activity is aimed at introducing the S4HL campaign in Uganda. During the launch, the S4HL campaign strategy detailing the S4HL campaign vision, goal, planned activities, expected outcomes and theory of change will be unveiled to key stakeholders including government representatives, Civil Society Organizations, Grass root women leaders, traditional and religious leaders, media, development partners, etc.

2. Media Campaign Media is an integral part of the S4HL campaign. To create visibility and support for the S4HL campaign from the onset, the campaign isundertaking media and communications activities to introduce the campaign to key stakeholders as well as convey key advocacy messages on bridging the implementation gap on Women's land rights in Uganda social, digital and mainstream media channels are being used including twits, Television talk shows, radio talk shows, Print media etc.

#### **MOVEMENT BUILDING**

Numerous national and local CSOs hold deep expertise and experience on WLR but lack the needed resources and coordinating mechanisms to collectively identify and act on shared goals.

Changes the Problem Calls For

- 1. Movement building and coordination for collective voice and action for WLR
- 2. Capacity strengthening for Movement membership for effective and impactful advocacy efforts
- 3. Increased Financial and technical resources for collective advocacy action to advance WLR.

# Barriers/that are making the change not realized

- 1. Fragmented/siloed efforts towards WLRs
- 2. Lack of common advocacy agenda and goal
- 3. Competition for resources
- 4. Exclusion of grassroots women and minority groups in joint advocacy efforts

# Strategic actions to create the desired change

- the Movement

  2. Facilitate grass root women movements at sub national level
- 2. Tactitate grass root women movements at sas national tevel
- 3. Hold sub national and National Level Women's Land Rights Forums / public dialogues on WLR
- 4. Capacity building trainings of movement member organizations to empower them to know and claim their rights through collective advocacy efforts

1. Mobilize and enroll new member organizations including grassroots women and minority group organizations in to

5. Joint fundraising to facilitate the movement activities-

### **Target audience**

Human rights, women's rights and land rights CSOs and grassroots women groups

#### **ADVOCACY**

# CORE ADVOCACY ISSUE 01: Social norms and cultural practices preventing women from accessing, owning, and controlling land

# Changes the Problem Calls For

- 1. Transformation of discriminatory social norms and practices that affect WLR
- 2. Increased number of grassroots women challenging and speaking out against discriminatory social norms
- 3. Increased number of traditional/cultural and religious leaders advocating against discriminatory social norms and cultural practices.
- 4. Increased male engagement on women's land rights
- 5. Increased awareness on women's land rights

- 1. Deeply entrenched cultural practices and norms that stem from patriarchy
- 2. Time and resource constraints required to change the social norms
- 3. Legal pluralism- Legal and legitimacy issues

# 1. Hold focus group discussions with men/women/youth/traditional and religious leaders to identify and document progressive cultural practices that advance WLR and the key prevailing discriminatory social norms and practices against WLR

2. Hold Community conversations/ dialogues /engagements with men/women/youth/traditional and religious leaders on social norm transformation

# Strategic actions to create the desired change

- 3. Identify and training male champions for WLR and gender equality
- 4. Customize and pilot the Secure Your Family Future Social Norm transformation curriculum with select couples at household level
- 5. Production and dissemination of SNBC Information, Education and Communications materials
- 6. Document and connect learning from community conversations on social norms and existing best practices on gender transformative pilot projects to national level advocacy
- 7. Undertake advocacy for integration of gender transformative approaches in land administration processes (Land rights registration and Land conflict resolution processes)

# **Target audience**

Men and Women, youth, traditional Leaders, religious leaders, local leaders, Cultural institutions, Religious institutions and their associations such as Interreligious council, Joint Christian council, Uganda Moslem Supreme council and council of Bishops, Media (print, radio, TV)

# CORE ADVOCACY ISSUE 02: Inadequate funding and capacity for land management and administration institutions to support WLR

- 1. Adequate resources are allocated to land administration institutions to support WLR.
- 2. Land actors have capacity to promote women's land rights

# Changes the problem calls for

- 3. Priorities that support WLR are included in the Programs Implementation Action Plan of MLHUD.
- 4. Interventions to support WLR prioritized in the land sector budget framework paper and Ministerial Policy Statement.
- 5. Priorities and interventions that support WLR are included in the District Development Plan (DDP) and local government annual plans and budgets.

- 1. Restricted Indicative Planning Figures from Ministry of Finance to the to the land sector.
- 2. Competing priorities and emergence of Pandemics, and other related disasters.
- 3. Low capacity of the planners to articulate WLR priorities in planning and budgeting.
- 4. The absence of evidence on the economic value of investing in WLR.

# **Strategic action** for desired change

- 1. Undertake cost-benefit analysis on WLR
- 2. Undertake land budget advocacy under the Civil Society Budget advocacy group (CSBAG)
- 3. Train grass root women leaders on budget analysis and advocacy to enable them engage in budget advocacy with local government budget committees
- 4. Training of local land actors in women's Land Rights and gender responsive land administration
- 5. Document best practices from lessons and outcomes of existing pilot projects
- 6. Hold national level round table gatherings with key stakeholders to influence policy and practice around financing and capacity of land management and administration institutions based on lessons from existing pilot projects
- 7. Write position papers/policy briefs on financing and capacity strengthening for land management and administration institutions to support WLR
- 5. Hold media advocacy campaigns on social and mainstream media platforms on financing and capacity strengthening for land management and administration institutions to support WLR

# **Target audience**

Parliament of Uganda, Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, Ministry of Lands, Housing and urban Development, Local Leaders (Local Government Budget Committees), Lower Local Government Budget Committee, Civil Society Organizations/ CBOs, Development Partners,

#### CORE ADVOCACY ISSUE 03: Limited awareness on the legal and regulatory framework on women's land rights by rights holders and duty bearers.

# **Changes the** problem calls for

- 1. Increased awareness on women's land rights
- 2. Increased number of women and men who use the legal framework to protect their land rights.
- 3. Duty bearers increasingly applying legal provisions that protect women's land rights.

- 4. Resource constraints (time, financial, human) to undertake mass sensitizations and awareness.
- 5. Limited political will to finance awareness and sensitization activities to empower women and men on Women Land Rights
- 6. Limited access to information on the legal and policy framework on women's land rights.
- 7. Systemic barriers like patriarchy, capitalism and colonialism.

# **Strategic action** for desired change

- 1. Develop and disseminate simplified, translated popular versions of information, Communication and Education materials on WLR
- 2. Mobilization and training of community own resource persons (community paralegals/educators/advocates) to undertake community sensitizations on WLR
- 3. Hold media engagements on social and mainstream platforms to sensitize masses on WLR (Constitution, Land Act, Succession act)
- 4. Hold public dialogues/ rallies/marches/marathons by women and their allies to amplify women's voices, create awareness and demand for WLR
- 5. Undertake advocacy through multi stakeholder engagements and writing position papers to influence practice and financing around legal literacy programming.
- 6. Documentation of best practice awareness raising and legal literacy interventions in existing pilot projects

# **Target Audience**

Women. Men, youth, traditional and religious leaders, local land actors, Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development, development partners

#### CORE ADVOCACY ISSUE 4: Limited access to Land Justice for women

# **Changes the Problem Calls For**

Barriers/that

are making the change not

realized

- 1. Efficient, Equitable, effective mechanisms supporting women to access land justice
- 2. Harmonization of the formal and informal laws
- 3. Increased number of women accessing land justice

# 1. Corruption within the land Justice systems both (formal and informal)

- 2. Limited funding of land justice mechanisms
- 3. Legal pluralism and Complexities
- 4. Case backlog
- 5. Social cultural bias
- 6. Complexity of legal processes
- 7. Adversarial nature of the justice system
- 8. High cost of accessing justice

# **Strategic Action** for desired Change

- 1. Advocacy for passing of National Legal Aid Policy and Bill
- 2. Hold community engagements/conversations with duty bearers on women's access to land justice to identify challenges
- 3. Undertake research on status quo, challenges and best practices on promoting women's access to land justice
- 4. Hold multi stakeholder engagements with advocate for women's access to land justice
- 5. Hold media engagements to advocate for women's access to land justice

# **Target Audience**

Civil Society Organization- WRO, Legal aid service providers through LASPNET, Religious institutions and their associations, Cultural institutions, Development partners, Academia, Media (print, radio, TV), Judiciary, Parliament, Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development, Executive, Local land administrators

#### CORE ADVOCACY ISSUE 5: Limited participation, voice and agency of grassroots women in land governance.

- 1. Recognize and invest in grassroots women and local communities as solution providers
- 2. Increased effective participation of grassroots women in land governance

#### Changes the **Problem Calls For**

- 3. Increased number of grassroots women with ability to decide and determine the change they want in women's land rights.
- 4. Increase in grassroots women occupying positions of leadership that promote women's land rights

- 1. Discriminatory social norms and cultural practices stemming from patriarchy
- 2. Limited capacity to exercise agency
- 3. High illiteracy levels
- 4. Women often lack the information, ally ship, support and social freedom they need to exercise agency

- 1. Facilitate grassroots women leaders to organize as WLR advocates/ champions at sub national level across the country
- 2. Capacity building training for grassroots women leaders in advocacy, land monitoring, WLR based on the Kilimaniaro Charter of demands
- 3. Training of grassroots women on WLRs and nexus with other development priorities like food security, climate change, gender-based violence and economic justices and rights
- 4. Facilitate grassroots women's participation in national, regional, international WLR advocacy spaces to call for actions on WLR as per the Kilimaniaro Charter of Demands

# **Strategic Action** for desired Change

- 5. Grassroots women led action research and community digital mapping on status of WLR for evidence based advocacv
- 6. Hold grassroots women advocacy engagements through grassroots women's assemblies and grassroots women's community land forums
- 7. Hold media engagements with grass root women to share experiences, best practices and call for action towards actualizing WLR
- 8. Hold Partner dialogues between grass root women leaders to collectively engage with relevant key stakeholders and duty bearers to call for action on WLRs.
- 9. The grassroots women will draft their position statement papers and recommendations for action to actualize WLRs
- 10. Grass root women led gender evaluations and audits on land administration

#### **Target audience**

Grassroots women and girls.

# 5.2 S4HL media and communications plan

Media and communication is an integral part of the S4HL advocacy campaign that will be employed to drive the campaign's advocacy agenda. The Campaign will develop and adopt comprehensive media and communications engagement plan that will consistently convey key advocacy messages on bridging the implementation gap on WLRs in Uganda to the public, duty bearers, development partners at the local, sub-national, national, regional and global levels. The plan will detail the different physical/offline (information, communication and education materials like banners, posters, brochures, fliers, billboards, stickers) digital social and mainstream media (social media platformstwitter, face book, LinkedIn, etc., television shows, radio talks, podcasts, blogs, documentaries) as well as print media (Newspapers articles, opinion pieces, etc.). The plan will clearly illustrate the different media and communications channels that will be employed by different campaigners to reach different target audiences at different levels.

Additionally, the S4HL campaign will develop key messages to advance the campaign's agenda and cause the desired action from the respective audiences. The table below presents some of the key messages to call for action to bridge the implementation gap on WLR for the S4HL campaign.

Mind the Gap – Bridge the Implementation gap on Women's Land	Women's land rights are Human rights
Women's land rights are central to Climate change resilience	Time to Act – Actualize Women's Land Rights
There is no sustainable development without Women's land rights	Secure women's land rights are critical for food security
Women's land rights are not an act of charity	Promote Women's Land – Secure Your Family's Future
Nothing for Us Without Us – Grassroots women's led advocacy to actualize WLRs	Women are not property but land is property that women can own
Women's land rights benefit everyone	Male champions for Women's Land Rights
Women's land rights for peace and security	Real men bequeath land to their daughters

# 5.3 Movement Building Plan

The S4HL campaign in Uganda will be anchored in movement building. The Coalition will strengthen the efforts of existing land rights actors and organizations in the country at different levels (local, sub-national and national). The S4HL campaign will thus catalyze a sustained, locally driven movement for WLRs comprising the broader human rights, land rights, women's rights and grassroots organizations, linking issues of natural resources and gender, environment and climate action, food systems/security, housing and urbanization, Gender Based Violence (GBV) and advocacy efforts on women and girls' health, education, water and sanitation, etc. into a powerful national movement under a

unified strategy for effective and sustainable transformation, resulting in gender equitable land tenure governance. Emphasis will be put on grassroots women's movement building, positioning grassroots women at the center of the campaign and amplifying their participation, voice and agency in land governance. Additionally, The campaign will also focus on inclusion for minority groups including pastoralist communities, and ethnic minorities like the Ik, Batwa in the campaign process. Specific indicators on inclusion and participation based on sex, ethnicity, geographical reach, organizational mandate, etc will be formulated and tracked regularly.

# 5.4 S4HL campaign Linkage to regional and global advocacy

The S4HL campaign in Uganda will link its activities, lessons and outcomes at local and national level to regional and International levels. For example, the campaign will leverage days such as International Women's Day, (March 8), International Rural Women's Day (Oct 15th); World Food Day (Oct 16); International Human Rights Day and 16 Days of Activism Against GBV; etc to undertake advocacy interventions on closing the implementation gap on WLR. Additionally, the Campaign will engage in global policy influencing and undertake advocacy for fulfillment of country commitments under global agenda related to WLR including for example Generation Equality Action plans focused on economic justice rights and Feminist Action for climate justice, on-going review of global mechanisms like the VGGTs; UN High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development; World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty; among others. At Regional level, S4HL will engage with existing regional efforts to influence land policy to advance WLR. These include: the Africa Union (AU), Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), The East Africa Community, Africa Land Policy initiatives and Priorities; Network of Excellence on land Governance (NELGA) etc. The campaign will prepare statements with the key messages, make presentations, hold dialogues sessions and undertake strategic advocacy activities to advance actualization of WLRs. The campaign will also create and influence spaces at national, regional and international level for grassroots women to participate and share their experiences, practices and priorities. This will ensure that the advocacy interventions of the campaign resonate with the lived realities of women in the far-flung parts of the country.

The Uganda S4HL Coalition will collaborate closely with the global S4HL movement. A global steering committee including a total of seven international organizations (Landesa, International Land Coalition, Huairou Commission, Rights and Resources Initiative, Habitat for Humanity, GLTN/UN Habitat, and the World Bank) support the work of the S4HL Coalitions. Other S4HL coalitions are in Senegal, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Bangladesh, and Colombia. Cross country, regional and global exchanges/meetings/conferences etc will be held to facilitate peer sharing and learning in the context of closing implementation gap on WLR.

# S4HL campaign Governance and Coordination

# i. Campaign Host

The S4HL Campaign in Uganda is hosted under the National Land Coalition (NLC)- a platform that brings together various local and international organizations, private sector and research institutions working on land and natural resource governance in the country. The goal of the coalition is to promote people centered land governance through policy and practice change in adherence to Uganda's Vision 2040. The coalition seeks to strengthen a multi stakeholder platform for engagements in championing laws and policy formulation and implementation that promote people centered land governance. The NLC is a loose membership coalition currently having a membership of thirty-six organizations. Through the S4HL campaign, grassroots women organizations, groups and individuals will be supported and facilitated to join the NLC for sustained and inclusive advocacy for people centered land and natural resource governance under its thematic areas of Land and climate action, Land Inequality, Food systems, Land rights defenders, Natural resource management, Land and investment, Women and youth Land rights, Urbanization and housing, Land corruption and accountability.

# ii. Campaign Steering Committee

The S4HL Campaign in Uganda shall be steered by the National Land Coalition Steering Committee. The NLC Steering Committee is the apex decision making organ of the coalition. This shall provide and oversight, decision making and technical advisory role to the S4HL campaign. The committee is drawn from the NLC membership to ensure effective representation of different stakeholders and interest groups. Grassroots women's representation on the steering committee is prioritized. The committee includes members from Thematic lead NGOs, INGOs, Government, Private Sector Associations/Media, Academia, Research Institutions, Grassroots' Organizations and Individuals.

# iii. Campaign Coordinator

The S4HL Campaign in Uganda is Coordinated by Uganda Community Based Association for Women and Children's welfare (UCOBAC), a nongovernmental organization in Uganda whose mission is to promote human rights and improve welfare of women and children in Uganda using community Based Initiatives. UCOBAC leads the Women and Youth Land rights thematic group in the NLC and also currently chairs the National Land Coalition (NLC) Steering Committee in Uganda.

# 5.6 S4HL Campaign Sustainability strategic plan

S4HL campaign sustainability strategy will be built on the following key pillars;

- 1) Financial sustainability: Primarily the campaign financial sustainability shall be premised on the members upon adopting the campaign in their programs shall undertake lead or coordinate actions agreed upon in the campaign. Further the Campaigners Will develop a solid financial base through diversifying funding options from a number of donors and other development partners that align to the aspirations set out in this strategy. A series of Joint project funding proposals will be developed and marketed to potential funding partners to fund the strategy. S4HL coordinating organization will lead this fundraising process supported by the S4HL Global Steering Committee secretariat and the National Land Coalition Steering Committee providing technical and advisory roles to the process.
- 2) Movement harnessing and locally driven processes: The S4HL campaign shall rely and draw on the capacity and expertise of its diverse membership in the movement to drive its agenda and sustain the implementation of this strategy. The S4HL campaign shall invest in strengthening the capacity of its movement member organizations as well as strengthen ownership of the campaign through building a grassroots movement to lead and sustain the campaign over time. Additionally, the adoption of the campaign by women rights organization and other CSOs will

further this strategy

- 3) Governance and operational systems strengthening: S4HL campaign host organization and steering Committee will ensure campaign sustainability through sufficient investment in governance and institutional operational systems including building strong partnership relationships with key actors, risk and do no harm approaches, strong financial management and accountability practices, safeguarding mechanisms etc.
- 4) Periodic strategy reflection and review: TheS4HL campaign is designed with a broad framework that allows its implementation to evolve. The evolution will allow the campaigners to often Retreat, Review, Re-organize and Re-attack. The periodic reviews will keep the campaign teams together, energized, active and focused as new ideas emerge, contexts change, and innovative advocacy approaches and actions are adopted. In these reviews the campaigners will take stock and celebrate their achievements, learn from their mistakes and successes and be flexibility to seize new emerging opportunities while remaining relevant.

# S4HL Campaign Safeguarding and do no Harm Consideration

The safeguarding and do no Harm consideration sits on the recognition that land rights are power issues. It recognizes that different people access power differently and have authority either because of their positions of authority, sex, ethnicity, cultural orientation, financial position among others. Often times, advocacy campaigns have been challenged by the related power struggles and the desire to maintain status quo.

Land rights defenders, community champions, Civil Society Actors and whistleblowers, court witnesses among others are in most cases victims of the aftermath violations subjected to coercion, intimidation, threats, and illegal arrests and in extreme events death.

The campaign also recognizes the role of communities and seeks to ensure that community engagements, collection and use of data do not cause or involve any physical or emotional abuse or exploitation.

The stand for her land campaign will follow the following principles;

- 1. Empowerment and people centered The campaign will ensure that communities, community champions, civil society actors and duty bearers are given sufficient information to make informed decisions
- 2. Prevention safety is paramount Measures to detect and recognize signs of abuse and threat will be designed,

communicated and prioritized. The community champions and regional advocacy leads will be empowered to early warning signs of violations and threats. The campaign will adapt the existing channels for case reporting put in place by partners.

- 3. Sensitivity to gender, culture and age The campaign will respect the unique nature of women, cultures and prevent children from harm. The campaign will advance women's rights and gender equality.
- 4. Accountability and transparency every person close to a vulnerable person will be responsible to take safeguarding concerns. Everyone who is involved in the campaign will be required to adhere to the principles. Any person that will interact with data in the course of the campaign will be required to undertake an ethical principal training.
- 5. Proportionality The campaign will work closely with the existing justice actors to ensure that cases are dealt with using the least intrusive methods.
- **6. Protection** Members of the National Land coalition, community champions, male champions and regional advocacy leaders will be trained on the safeguarding principles, detecting threat and response mechanisms.

# 5.8 S4HL Campaign Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEL) Plan

The country coalition will adopt a participatory MEAL approach to M&E. This approach aims at ensuring inclusivity of all campaign stakeholders in tracking progress, sharing learning benefits and risks to draw strategies that protect the campaign from shocks while consolidating successes. A MEAL plan to assess the campaign's outcomes as articulated in the S4HL theory of change. The MEAL plan will be guided by a detailed result framework that will provide a full set of campaign activities, output and outcome indicators and corresponding data sources and key assumptions. This information will support semiannual and, annual reporting, peer learning and sharing within and across countries to inform future advocacy efforts.

The MEAL tasks of data collection, processing, review meetings and report writing shall be with the coordinating organization, steering committee members and movement CSOs including grass root women leaders.

The plan shall be monitored in its context, progress and impact.

(i) Monitoring the Context – Periodic assessments of the operating environment shall be undertaken to ensure that S4HL Campaign in Uganda continues responding to critical issues in areas of Advocacy to bridge implementation gap on WLRs there will be continuous scanning of the operational environment and context in search of opportunities and threats to pertaining to S4HL advocacy agenda

- Monitoring Progress The progress to realizing strategic outputs and results shall be monitored at different levels by different members. An annual operational plan shall be developed and approved by the Steering Committee to ensure that an annual framework for performance and accountability is in line with the strategic plan. Internal organizational monitoring mechanisms will be instituted to track progress on the plan on quarterly and annual basis. Additionally; different M&E tools shall be adapted and new ones developed for generating relevant data for tracking progress on the strategic plan, performance measurement and tracking progress on different indicators and outcomes as set out in the result frame. Regular reflects shall be held to reassess strategy including annual retreats shall be held to provide opportunity for reflection on performance against the S4HL operational plans so as to draw lessons, challenges and forge a better approach in responding to emerging land issues.
- (iii) Monitoring Impact Measuring impact is a key component of the strategy. S4HL campaign in Uganda will determine the relevance, effectiveness and efficiency of the advocacy intervention after the five-year period and draw lessons for future interventions. Consequently, all interventions undertaken to operationalize this stand her land campaign including this strategic plan itself shall be evaluated in a variety of ways for example end term evaluation surveys,

