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GFA CONSULTING GROUP
Pamoja for Transformation
Building Peace & Development Opportunities

LEARNING BRIEF

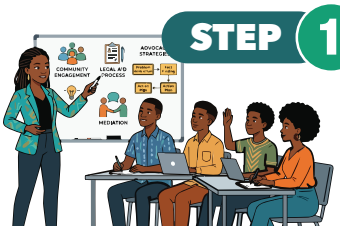
From Knowledge to Action - Lessons Learnt, Methodological Insights, and Recommendations for Sustainable Land Governance Intervention

Improving Access to Land Approaches

The access to land intervention implemented by GFA Consulting Group in partnership with Pamoja for Transformation (P4T) in the framework of the GIZ Agri-Jobs **4 Youth** Initiative, addresses barriers to accessing agricultural land through a Transformative Intergenerational Dialogue approach. This approach promotes inclusive engagement between landowners and farmers, strengthens mutual understanding, and facilitates practical, community-driven solutions such as formalising land leasing, improved land governance, and conflict transformation.

1. Methodological Learnings: Why the Sequenced Approach Works

The intervention proved that sustainable land access cannot be achieved through one-off sensitization. Success relied strictly on a structured, sequenced progression along 4 key steps:



Selection and Capacity Building of Community Paralegals

Community members are selected according to defined criteria and trained as paralegals. Training strengthens their skills and knowledge necessary in facilitating sensitization and awareness creation to enhance land access for women and youth.

Awareness Creation



Grounded in the *Awareness and Sensitization Guide*, this step shifts broad community perceptions to overcoming barriers to accessing land. Furthermore, women become aware of their land rights under Articles 27, 40, and 60 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010. Land leasing is introduced as a viable option for youth and women who are inspired to venture into commercial agriculture but are constrained by access to land for economic production.



Intergenerational Dialogues

Grounded in the *Intergenerational Dialogue (ID) Facilitation Guide,* this step breaks down power imbalances and cultural resistance by pairing landowners directly with youth and women wanting to access land to co-create solutions using a "Do No Harm" framework. Action plans for accessing land developed as the outcome of IDs.

Paralegal Clinics



Grounded in the *Community Land Rights Paralegal Guidelines,* this step translates dialogue commitments into actionable legal paperwork, formal lease signing (including mandatory spousal consent checks), and succession filings under the supervision of local administrators, some of whom already trained as community paralegals.

2. Key Challenges Encountered and Adaptive Solutions

- Challenge: **Economic Barriers & Input Gaps.** Some youth successfully secured land leases but frequently lacked capital for seeds, fertilizers, and inputs, causing temporary frustration and occasional walkouts from participating in the intervention measures.

  Adaptive Solution: The project clarified budget constraints while actively linking beneficiaries directly to **Farmer Service Centres** (FSCs) and embedding continuous agribusiness coaching during follow-up visits.

- Challenge: **High Demand for Complex Legal Aid.** Clinics uncovered deep-seated family disputes and succession backlogs that exceeded standard paralegal clinic session times.

  Adaptive Solution: Facilitators prioritized cases by urgency and complexity, establishing formal referral pathways to local chiefs and administrative offices for ongoing accompaniment.

3. Strategic Lessons Learnt



Leveraging Existing Governance Structures

Integrating National Government Administration Officers (NGAOs), especially the chiefs and assistant chiefs, as active paralegals drastically enhances community trust, legitimacy, and project ownership beyond the project timeline.



The Power of Formalization and Spousal Consent

Replacing verbal agreements with written, standardised lease documents – while enforcing mandatory spousal consent under matrimonial property rules – eliminates arbitrary lease terminations and protects vulnerable household members.



Outcome Harvesting as an Accountability Tool

Participatory outcome harvesting captures intangible behavioral shifts (such as voluntary will-writing and peaceful intra-family negotiations) that standard output tracking misses.

4. Key Recommendations for Future Programming

KEY STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

01



Integrate Agribusiness Support Packages

Future land interventions must bundle land access with agricultural input access, financial literacy, credit, and market linkages to guarantee enterprise profitability.

02



Institutionalise the Paralegal Model

Sustain and scale community paralegal networks within county governance frameworks to provide permanent local legal aid, mediation, and Alternative Justice Systems (AJS).

03



Expand Policy Popularization

Actively support county governments in passing, funding, and popularizing local land control, management, and use policies to institutionalise youth-friendly lease formats permanently.

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Agri-Jobs **4 You**th
P.O. Box 2968
40100 Kisumu
Kenya
Email: agri-jobs4youth@giz.de
www.giz.de
www.gfa-group.de

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Text Greg Umaya, Anthony Nyandiek and Stephen Kandenyo

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