



Network of Excellence
on Land Governance
in Africa



NELGA Anglophone West Africa:

Celebrating Successes and Best Practices
in Land Governance

NELGA Objectives and functions

To strengthen human and institutional capacities for the implementation of the AU agenda on land, ALPC has established a **Network of Excellence on Land Governance in Africa (NELGA)** in cooperation with Germany and other partners.

NELGA is a partnership of leading [African universities and research institutions](#) with proven leadership in education, training and research on land governance. Currently, NELGA has more than 70 partner institutions across Africa.

NELGA Objectives



Enhancing training opportunities and curricula on land governance in Africa.



Promoting demand driven research on land policy issues.



Connecting scholars and researchers across Africa through academic networks.



Creating data and information for monitoring and evaluation of land policy reforms.

Key functions of NELGA



Improve both the quantity and quality of land-related curricula in graduate and post-graduate training courses.



Provide and facilitate academic education and training for African land professionals and practitioners.



Define an agenda for research and conduct applied research on land-related issues pertinent to the AU agenda on land.



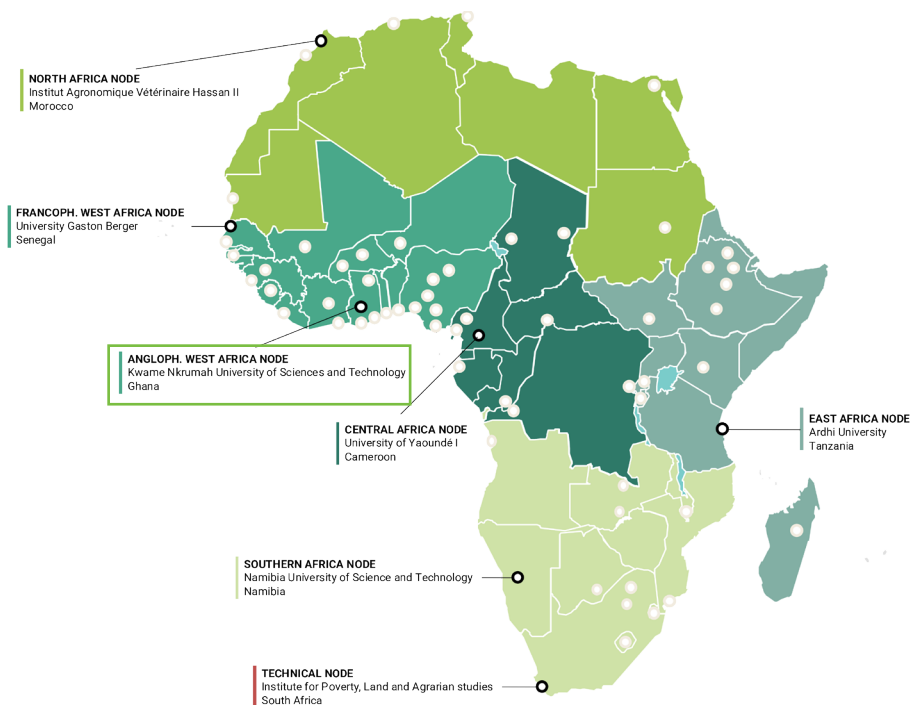
Promote knowledge management, dissemination and networking to support land policy and governance in Africa by enhancing the community of practice for land policy experts.

NELGA in the African Regions



To enhance NELGA coordination across various regions, a lead university has been designated for each AU region, referred to as “Regional Nodes,” to collectively implement and coordinate NELGA activities alongside other NELGA

institutions. In **NELGA Anglophone West Africa Node**, the **Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST)** is the premier Centre of Excellence in Ghana for teaching and training education in Science and Technology is a leading university.



NELGA Anglophone West Africa



The **Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST)** in Ghana leads the NELGA West Africa Anglophone Node, specializing in land governance research and education.

The Department of Land Economy at KNUST offers various programs, including a BSc Land Economy, MSc Land Governance and Policy, and a PhD in Land Management. Recognized for its excellence, KNUST was selected as the regional Node for Anglophone West Africa.

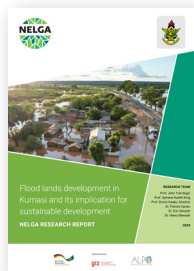


Key Achievements



Research:

KNUST conducts high-quality research on land governance and development strategies. Its annual research workshops attract policymakers and professionals, fostering effective communication of research findings within the scientific community.

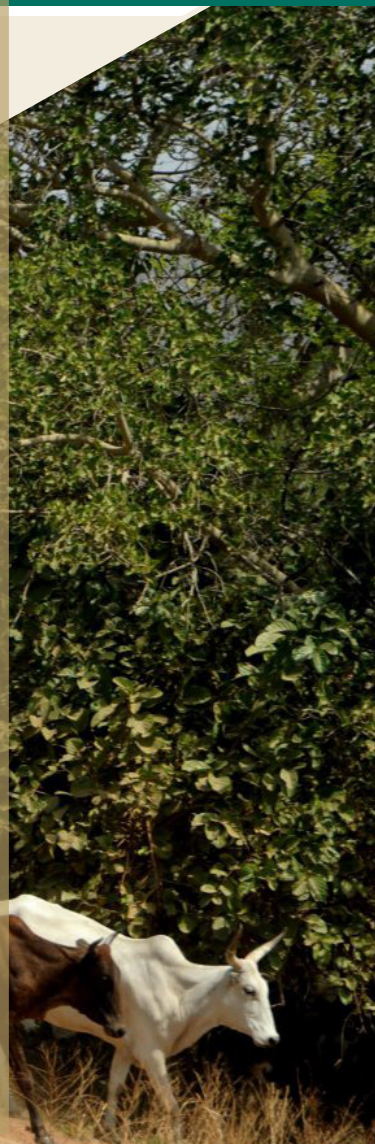


Capacity Building:

Since 2018, KNUST has provided capacity building for land professionals, awarding 25 scholarships and organizing workshops that leverage technology to address land-related challenges.

Policy Reform:

KNUST has established an international policy dialogue on land governance in West Africa, offering a platform for addressing key governance challenges in the region.



Land Governance

Navigating Land Governance in West Africa: Challenges and Opportunities Complex Land Tenure Systems

West Africa's land governance is characterized by a mix of traditional and statutory land tenure systems, often overlapping and causing conflicts and uncertainties regarding land ownership and use. Many land transactions and ownership claims are informal, complicating the establishment of clear legal rights and responsibilities.



Administrative Inefficiencies and Corruption

Inadequate record-keeping and bureaucratic inefficiencies hinder effective land administration and management. Corruption within land administration institutions further undermines trust and equitable access to land, exacerbating governance challenges.

Opportunities for Improvement

Despite these challenges, there are significant opportunities to harmonize traditional and statutory land tenure systems, reducing conflicts and improving tenure security. By investing in capacity building for land administrators, policymakers, and community leaders, the region can strengthen land governance and promote more equitable land management practices.



Land Governance

Transforming Land Governance Through Education, Advocacy, and Research Initiatives

KNUST's postgraduate programs on land governance have produced numerous graduates who are making significant impacts in the land governance sector. The university has played a pivotal role in advocating for the revision of Ghana's land policy and is an active participant in the newly established national multi-stakeholder platform on land governance.



Research initiatives at the Node have generated insights into land governance challenges, directly informing policy and practice at multiple levels. Notably, findings from the flood research project have been shaping urban planning strategies in Ghana, ensuring that they are grounded in empirical evidence and best practices.

In addition to its educational and research efforts, KNUST has forged strong partnerships with both local and international institutions, enhancing its capacity to drive land governance reforms. These collaborations have facilitated knowledge exchange, capacity building, and the development of innovative solutions to land-related challenges. Through these partnerships, KNUST continues to contribute to the advancement of sustainable land governance practices across West Africa.



Advancing Land Governance: Key Achievements and Best Practices in NELGA Anglophone West Africa

The Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) Node of the Network of Excellence on Land Governance in Africa (NELGA) has made significant strides in promoting effective land governance and management across the continent. Here are some key achievements and best practices:

1. Capacity Building and Training Programs

- Conducted numerous workshops, seminars, and training programs to build the capacity of stakeholders in land governance, including government officials, researchers, and community leaders.
- Developed and implemented specialized training modules (MSc and PhD) on land governance tailored to the needs of various stakeholders.



2. Research and Publications

- Produced high-quality research papers and reports on critical land governance issues, contributing to the body of knowledge and informing policy decisions.



Land Governance

3. Curriculum Development

- Integrated land governance topics into the academic curriculum at KNUST, ensuring that students are equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to address land governance challenges.
- Developed new courses and programs focused on land governance and management based on the ALPC guidelines for curriculum development. To date under the NELGA scholarship programme KNUST has granted 25 scholarships (15 MSc and 10 PhD) on planning, land governance and geomatic engineering courses in the Anglophone West African Node.

4. Policy Advocacy and Engagement

- Engaged with policymakers at national and regional levels to advocate for evidence-based land policies and reforms.
- Organized forums and dialogues to facilitate discussions between stakeholders, including government agencies, civil society organizations, and local communities.

5. Networking and Partnerships

- Strengthened partnerships with other NELGA Nodes, academic institutions, and international organizations to foster collaboration and knowledge exchange.
- Participated in regional and international conferences, contributing to the global discourse on land governance.



Join the Movement

Be a part of transforming land governance in West Africa! Connect with NELGA to contribute to impactful research, capacity building, and policy reform. Collaborate with leading experts, share insights, and drive impactful changes in land management.

Collaborate: Partner with us in research and training initiatives.

Advocate: Support evidence-based policy reforms and sustainable land practices.

Engage: Join our network for knowledge exchange and innovation.

Contact Us

Website: nelga.uneca.org



NELGA Digital





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**Minaye Office Park, Floor 6-8
Flamingo Area, Off Bole Road
P.O. Box 100009,
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Phone +251 11 470 33 55**

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