

### **NELGA NORTH AFRICA NEWSLETTER**

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# PARTICIPATION OF NELGA NORTH AFRICA IN THE CONFERENCE ON LAND POLICY IN AFRICA,

21-24 November 2023 in Addis Ababa - Ethiopia

The fifth edition of the Conference on Land Policy in Africa (CLPA 2023) took place from 21 to 24 November, 2023 in a hybrid format, at the headquarters of the African Union Commission, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The theme of the conference "Promoting Sustainable Land Governance in Africa for Accelerating Implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area agreement, which is in alignement with the theme of the African Union for 2023, was at the center of discussions during the main plenary and parallel sessions.



NELGA NA members and partners participated in the various technical sessions and side events of the conference. The interventions of Professors Abdelwahed El Idrissi and Abderrahim Id-rais dealt respectively with: the processes of urban land production and the forms of land injustice in Morocco; and the urban development projects and land governance with a case study of the Bouregreg Valley project in Morocco.

Furthermore, the Coordinator of NELGA NA, Professor Moha El-Ayachi, chaired the "Academia and Research Institutions" panel that generated interesting discussions between the panelists who highlighted the importance of the role of academic institutions in research and development of innovative solutions for contemporary land challenges. The discussions also focused on the need for close collaboration between academia, local authorities and other stakeholders to foster integrated and sustainable development.

During the third day of the conference, Alumni from NELGA NA training programs were invited to share their experiences and discuss various themes during the side event organized by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). The Alumnus from the Master on Geospatial Sciences and Land Governance Ms. Chaimaa Erreddaf, along with the President of the Association of Young Experts in Land Governance in Cameroon, presented some suggestions on how digital networks can be used to build strong communities of Alumni with the objective of strengthen the global network of experts in land governance.



The NELGA North Africa team had the privilege of being welcomed by His Excellency the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Morocco to the African Union (AU). During the meeting, His Excellency the Ambassador and the NELGA North Africa team emphasized the role of academia in strengthening joint African action to serve the vital interests of Africa and African institutions in terms of peace, security and development, in line with HM King Mohammed VI's vision of South-South cooperation.

During the CLPA and on the 23rd of November, the organizers along with their partners announced the launch of the African Union's Land Governance Strategy 2023-2032. This strategy marks an important step in collaboration between African countries, private sectors and development partners to secure and strengthen land rights. Alongside the CLPA, internal meetings between representatives of African Land Policy Center (ALPC), members of NELGA nodes and teams of GIZ African Union office took place on the 20th of November, to discuss the NELGA sustainability strategy and the future of NELGA projects.

Finally, on the 25th of November, the GIZ African Union organized an inception workshop for technical support to NELGA on research communication. The workshop provided a platform for exchange and collaboration to establish a clear roadmap for implementing activities to enhance research communication within the NELGA network.

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### AFRICAN JOURNAL ON LAND POLICY AND GEOSPATIAL SCIENCES AJLP-GS

### Vol 6, No 4: September 2023

The fourth issue of 2023 (Vol 6, No 4) published in September contains thirteen (13) articles consisting mainly of the proceeds of the NELGA NA International Forum held on June 21-22, 2023 in Rabat.

### Vol 6, No 5: November 2023

The fifth issue (Vol 6, No 5) published in November 2023 contains eleven (11) articles.

### THE SPECIALIZED MASTER ON GEOSPATIAL SCIENCES AND LAND GOVERNANCE

## New academic year 2023-2024

At the end of September 2023, IAV Hassan II launched a call for application to access the specialized Master on Geospatial Sciences and Land Governance in its 6th edition. After the online submission of the applications and the preselection of candidates, a written test was carried out at IAV Institute. Ten candidates were confirmed and registered.

The new version of the Master's degree dedicated to land professionnals was approved by the Ministry of Higher Education and the call for candidates was launched on December 18th of 2023.

## 2023 Graduation ceremony at IAV Hassan II

Under the effective presidency of His Excellency Mohammed Sadiki, Minister of Agriculture, Maritime Fisheries, Rural Development and Water and Forests, IAV Hassan II held the 2023 graduation ceremony on Saturday November 25, 2023.

In his speech, the Minister presented his sincere congratulations to all graduates for the efforts made throughout their academic journey within the IAV Hassan II, in particular engineers, masters, veterinary doctors and doctors specializing in agronomic sciences and veterinary medicine.



### Launch of transversal and thematic research on land in North Africa

Following the conclusions of NELGA NA meeting with its partners and land professionals that took place on June 20, 2023 at IAV Hassan II, the node launched several research studies including a transversal study on the integration of SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) indicators in land governance systems in North Africa. Other thematic studies (land related topics) will be conducted and cover the North African countries namely: Morocco, Mauritania, Tunisia, Egypt, and Sudan.



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#### **About Us**

The purpose of NELGA (Network of Excellence on Land Governance in North Africa) is to enhance the role of selected African universities and academic / research institutions in support of land policy development, implementation and monitoring based on the African Union Agenda. IAV Hassan II was selected as NELGA North Africa node, because of its proven leadership, technical capacities and rich experience in academic education, training and research on land governance and related issues.