

Learning Workshop on
Women, Land and Housing Rights:
Assessing the Impacts of Dispossession
30 September–2 October 2020
Lusaka, Zambia

Civic Forum on Housing and Habitat Zambia, in cooperation with
Housing and Land Rights Network • Habitat International Coalition

Programme

Day 1: 30 September 2020

The first day of training will introduce the human rights approach to adequate housing and land, particularly focusing on the gender-equality dimension in implementing the corresponding obligations of states. It will provide an overview to human rights legislative framework and protection mechanisms in the international, regional and national spheres, and, introduce the theory and practice of the human rights in pursuit of both effective remedy and prevention of violations affecting women.

Session 1: 09:00–09:30

Welcome and introductions

Grace Mtonga, Civic Forum on Housing and Habitat Zambia, and Joseph Schechla, HIC-HLRN (Egypt)

The introductory session will provide a brief description of the project background, activities and objectives and briefly explain the structure, sessions and objectives of the three days of the workshop.

Introduction of participants

Session 2: 09:30–10:45

Contextualizing the question of land and housing in Zambia

Dr. Howard Chitengi – Land and Housing Expert

In the first half of the session, the presenter will examine the current state of housing and land governance in Zambia, in general. The focus is on the policy and institutional frameworks operating in the country.

Gender equality and women's rights approach to housing and land rights

Mr. Johans Mtonga – Executive Director, Zambia Center for Communication Programmes, Gender Activist and Specialist

The second half of the session will introduce provisions for gender equality and women's equal rights to land, housing and property, as well as provide the key aspects, characteristics and impacts of gender discrimination and violation of women's right to land, housing and property.

Each speaker will have 30 minutes to make the presentation, then the session will end with a 15-minute discussion for questions and answers (Q&A) and general commentary from participants' experience.

Break: 10:45–11:00

Session 3: 11:00– 12:45

International human rights legislative framework and protection mechanisms

Joseph Schechla

The first 40 minutes of the session seeks to provide a common basis of understanding of the legislative framework of human rights under international law, including treaties to which Zambia is a party, and the monitoring mechanisms concerning gender equality, women, non-discrimination and economic, social and cultural rights, particularly rights to adequate housing, land and property in the UN Human Rights System. The session focuses on the observations issued for Zambia's compliance with its state obligations under human rights treaty.

Regional human rights legislative framework and protection mechanisms

Heather Elaydi, HIC-HLRN (Egypt/Canada)

The presenter will provide an overview of the African Union and SADCC legislative frameworks of human rights concerning gender equality, women, non-discrimination and economic, social and cultural rights, particularly human rights to adequate housing, land and property. Furthermore, the session will be an opportunity to describe the African Union protection mechanisms of human rights in force and to discuss the access of civil society entities and local communities to these protection mechanisms against forced evictions, other violations of the right to housing and land-related rights and women's rights violations.

The second half of the session will be a 35-minute presentation will conclude with a 15-minute discussion for Q&A and general commentary.

Lunch: 12:45– 13:45

Session 4: 13:45–15:00

Zambia's human rights legislative framework and protection mechanisms

Mr. Archie Mulunda – CFHHZ Board Secretary – Land Specialist

The session will explore Zambia's legislative framework of human rights concerning gender equality, women, non-discrimination and economic, social and cultural rights, particularly rights concerning housing, land and property. It is designed to describe the Zambian protection mechanisms of human rights in force as well as the relationship of civil society entities and local communities to these protection mechanisms against forced evictions, other violations of the human right to housing and land-related human rights and women's rights violations. Beyond the theoretical frame, this session will provide a general overview of the human rights situation and the sociocultural practices relevant to human rights in Zambia.

Break: 15:00–15:15

Session 5: 15:15–16:00

The human right concept of victims and their effective remedy: theory and practice

Joseph Schechla

The first half-hour of the session will focus on the international law-based norms for recognizing victims of human rights violations and providing for remedy, including the constituent elements of reparations and how to understand corresponding the entitlements.

Day 2: 1 October 2020

Session 1: 09:00 AM – 09:15 AM

Summary of the first day and introduction to the second day

Civic Forum/Zambia participants

Session 2: 09:15 – 10:40

The human right concept of victims and their effective remedy: theory and practice

Joseph Schechla

The first half-hour of the session will focus on the international law-based norms for recognizing victims of human rights violations and providing for remedy, including the constituent elements of reparations and how to understand corresponding the entitlements.

Break: 10:40–11:00

Session 3: 11:00 –13:10

Strategic monitoring, quantifying and reporting human rights violations

Joseph Schechla

In the first half of the session, HLRN will share the theoretical background to monitoring, reporting and intervening in cases of human rights violations, tracing the logical steps toward resolution, based on previous learning about human rights norms, remedy for victims and available mechanisms. The session will describe the main methodologies available to civil society and local communities to monitor, document and report on the local situation corresponding to a variety of potential interventions. The session ends with an introduction of the types of costs, losses and damages at stake captured in the VIAT.

Lunch: 13:10– 14:00

Session 4: 14:45 –15:00

Participants' exchange of learning from experiences in Kenya, Uganda and Zambia

Diana Lee-Smith and Sam Ikuu, Mazingira Institute (Kenya); Brian Odella, SSA: UHSNET (Uganda); Hilar Zhou, Zimbabwe People's Land Rights Movement

Representatives from project partners Mazingira Institute (Kenya), Shelter and Settlements Alternatives: Uganda Human Settlements Network (Uganda) and Zimbabwe People's Land Rights Movement share cases and experience of dispossession and mitigation strategies, quantifying impacts of housing and land rights violations affecting women.

Session 5: 15:00– 16:00

The Power of Data in Making Your Case

Heather Elaydi, HIC-HLRN (Egypt/Canada)

The experience of monitoring and documenting housing and land rights violations, with examples drawn from specific countries, regions, types of violation and trends. The session explores the vital assessment and documentation of the actual and/or potential values at stake impacting housing and land rights in the HLRN Urgent Action System and Violation Database, focusing on Zambia as an illustration.

Day 3: 2 October 2020

The third day of the learning workshop will be an organized debate and in-depth discussion to develop a typology of contexts and cases in Zambia that reflect the overall situation of women's housing and land rights issues. That outcome will be the basis for selection of five priority cases to be analyzed in the follow-up.

Session 1: 09:00–09:30

Summary of the second day and introduction to the third day

Moderated by Civic Forum/Zambia Civil Society

Session 2: 09:30–10:20

Toward a Zambia typology of violations

Moderated by Joseph Schechla and Grace Mtonga

Participants will develop the inventory of case from across Zambia, following a methodology of identifying the instance, type of violation, the context, the current stage and the type of remedy to be pursued. Participants will subject these instances to a “triage,” determining the relative priority and strategic potential of the cases into a set of five (proposed) representative priority violations that would benefit from quantification of the values at stake for affected women and girls. Of these emblematic cases, the discussion will focus on the potential strategic outcomes envisioned for each, including the potential for “upstreaming” outcomes for policy relevance.

Break: 10:20–10:45

Session 3: 10:45–12:00

Toward a Zambian typology of violations (cont'd), Way forward and closing

Grace Mtonga and Joseph Schechla

In this wrap-up session, the presenters will lead the discussion of further strategic steps in the project and take decisions about how to pursue the next steps, including the second Technical Workshop on application of the Violation Impact-assessment Tool to be customized on the basis of inputs from this workshop.

In preparation for the second Technical Workshop, the follow-up to the Learning Workshop will involve write-ups, profiling each of the priority cases, and consultation to identify which one is to be eligible for an in-depth application of the Violation Impact-assessment tool.